

Records of the General Conference

Twenty-third Session

Sofia, 8 October to 9 November 1985

Volume 2

Reports

Programme Commissions

Administrative Commission

Legal Committee

United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization

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Note on the Records of the General Conference

The Records of the twenty-third session of the General Conference are printed in three volumes:

The present volume, which contains the Reports of the Programme Commissions, the Administrative Commission, the joint meeting of the Programme and Administrative Commissions, and the Legal Committee (Volume 2);

The volume *Resolutions*, containing the resolutions adopted by the Conference and the list of officers of the General Conference and of the Commissions and Committees (Volume 1);

The volume *Proceedings*, which contains the verbatim records of plenary meetings, the list of participants and the list of documents (Volume 3).

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Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. REPORTS OF THE PROGRAMME COMMISSIONS	7
A. Report of Commission I	9
B. Report of Commission II	65
C. Report of Commission III	147
D. Report of Commission IV	185
E. Report of Commission V	247
II. REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION	287
III. REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE PROGRAMME AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS	365
IV. REPORTS OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE	385

I. Reports of the Programme Commissions

NOTE

The text reproduced in the following pages has been edited as authorized by the General Conference.

The reports of the five Programme Commissions were submitted to the General Conference, in plenary meeting, in the following documents: 23 C/111, 112, 113, 114, 115 and Annex-Recommendations.

The final texts of resolutions which were adopted by the General Conference on the recommendations of the five Commissions have been omitted from these reports, being reproduced in Volume I - Resolutions. The numbers of resolutions shown in the reports are those borne by the proposed resolutions which appeared in the Draft Programme and Budget for

1986-1987 (document 23 C/5) and in the proposed amendments to that draft submitted by Member States (document 23 C/8 and 23 C/DR series). The numbers finally given to the resolutions in Volume I have, however, been shown in brackets; it should be noted that some resolutions were altered in plenary session.

The budgetary figures contained in these reports and in that of the Administrative Commission were subsequently adjusted in the light of the Appropriation Resolution for 1986-1987 adopted by the General Conference at its thirty-seventh plenary meeting, on 9 November 1985 (document 23 C/117).

A. Report of Commission I

Introduction

- Examination of item 3.5 and of item 4.5 - Discussion Unit 20 - Major Programme XIV: The status of women
- Unesco's contribution to the improvement of the status of women
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 1 - Major Programme I: Reflection on world problems and future-oriented studies
- Examination of item 3.13 - Methods of preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan and timetable for its examination and adoption
- Examination of item 3.5 and of item 4.6 - Discussion Unit 13 - Major Programme VIII: Principles, methods and strategies of action for development
- New international economic order: Collaboration with the United Nations to ensure that sectors within Unesco's fields of competence are duly taken into consideration by the Commission on Transnational Corporations; A - Programme VIII.1; B - Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 24 - Part II.B, Chapter 4: A - External Relations; B - Public Information
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 25 - Part II.B, Chapter 5: Participation Programme
- Examination of item 4.10 - Co-operation with foundations pursuing activities in Unesco's fields of competence
- Examination of item 7.1 - Report by the Director-General on changes in the classification of international non-governmental organizations
- Examination of item 8.7 - Participation by the following Member States in the regional activities conducted by the Organization in Asia and the Pacific: Bahrain, Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 21 - Part II.B, Chapter 1: Copyright
- Examination of item 6.7 - Desirability of adopting a general international instrument on the safeguarding of folklore
- Examination of item 6.8 - Desirability of adopting an international instrument on the protection of works in the public domain
- Examination of item 3.5 and of item 6.4 - Discussion Unit 22 - Part II.B, Chapter 2: Statistics
- Draft revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 23 - Part II.B, Chapter 3: Unesco Courier and Periodicals
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 26 - Part III, Chapter 2: Office of the Unesco Press
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 27 - Part III, Chapter 3: Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents

INTRODUCTION

(1) At its first meeting Commission I elected Mr Bashir Bakri (Sudan) as its Chairman by acclamation.

(2) Also elected by acclamation, at the second meeting of the Commission, were three Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur. The fourth Vice-Chairman was elected at the fifth meeting. The Bureau was constituted as follows: Chairman: Mr Bashir Bakri (Sudan); Vice-Chairmen: Mrs Maria Salgo (Hungary), Mr Louis George (Saint Lucia), Mrs Nina Gornitzka (Norway), Mr Mohammad Jaafar Mohallati (Islamic Republic of Iran); Rapporteur: Mr Lamine Kamara (Guinea).

(3) The Commission then adopted the timetable of work which was submitted in document 22 C/COM.I/1.

(4) The following items of the agenda of the General Conference were submitted to the Commission for examination:

Unit 20 - Major Programme XIV: The status of women;

Item 4.5 - Unesco's contribution to the improvement of the status of women;

Unit 1 - Major Programme I: Reflection on world problems and future-oriented studies;

Item 3.13 - Methods of preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan and timetable for its examination and adoption;

Unit 13 - Major Programme VIII: Principles, methods and strategies of action for development;

Item 4.6 - New international economic order: Collaboration with the United Nations to ensure that sectors within Unesco's fields of competence are duly

taken into consideration by the Commission on Transnational Corporations;

Unit 24 - Part II.B, 4, Section 1: External Relations and Section 2: Public Information;

Unit 25 - Part II.B, 5: Participation Programme

Item 4.10 - Co-operation with foundations pursuing activities in Unesco's fields of competence;

Item 7.1 - Report by the Director-General on changes in the classification of international non-governmental organizations;

Item 8.7 - Participation by the following Member States in the regional activities conducted by the Organization in Asia and the Pacific: Bahrain, Democratic Yemen, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates and Yemen;

Unit 23 - Part II.B, 3: Unesco Courier and Periodicals;

Unit 26 - Part III, 2: Unesco Press;

Unit 27 - Part III, 3: Conferences, Languages and Documents;

Unit 21 - Part II.B, 1: Copyright;

Unit 22 - Part II.B, 2: Statistics;

Item 6.4 - Draft revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals;

Item 6.7 - Desirability of adopting an international instrument on the safeguarding of folklore;

Item 6.8 - Desirability of adopting an international instrument on the protection of works in the public domain.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 20 - MAJOR PROGRAMME XIV:
THE STATUS OF WOMEN, AND OF ITEM 4.5 - UNESCO'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPROVEMENT
OF THE STATUS OF WOMEN

(5) Commission I devoted its second and third meetings to the debate on Unit 20, relating to Major Programme XIV, 'The status of women', and item 4.5, 'Unesco's contribution to the improvement of the status of women: Report of the Director-General' (document 23 C/18). The draft resolutions concerning Unit 20 and item 4.5 were considered at the fourth and seventh meetings of the Commission.

(6) In his introductory statement, the representative of the Director-General, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, brought to the attention of the Commission that, in addition to Major Programme XIV in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (document 23 C/5) and the report of the Director-General on the contribution of Unesco towards improving the status of women (document 23 C/18), several other documents were presented to the Commission. These included document 23 C/12 on special reports by Member States on the progress made in attaining the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women, document

23 C/11 'Statement and evaluation of major impacts, achievements, difficulties and shortfalls for each continuing programme activity in 1984-1985' and document 23 C/3 'Report of the Director-General on the Activities of the Organization in 1981-1983'. Moreover, an in-depth study which had been carried out by the Special Committee of the Executive Board, involving a review and assessment of Unesco's intersectoral activities relating to women, was transmitted to the General Conference for information.

(7) Document 23 C/18 'Unesco's contribution towards improving the status of women: Report by the Director-General' is in fact the fourth of a series of activity reports presented to the twentieth, twenty-first and twenty-second sessions of the General Conference. Like the preceding reports, document 23 C/18 comprises three sections corresponding to the three themes of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, and in addition there are three sections on international co-operation, public information and the

situation of women in the Secretariat of the Organization. The last section includes an annex with a statistical analysis of the recruitment and promotion of women staff within the Secretariat.

(8) Commenting on the contribution of Unesco towards improving the status of women during the 1984-1985 biennium, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming pointed out that the activities specifically aimed at women had been given higher priority than before and increased efforts had been made to integrate a female dimension in the activities of the Organization. In particular, a Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women had been appointed in 1984, and the Intersectoral Committee for Co-ordination of activities concerning women had been reorganized and reinforced. In 1985, a meeting of an ad hoc advisory group on the status of women had been convened, and Unesco contributed actively to the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Nairobi in July 1985.

(9) Introducing Major Programme XIV, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming referred to the twofold strategy of the Organization adopted in the second Medium-Term Plan: on the one hand proposing activities specifically aimed at improving the status of women, on the other hand integrating a female dimension in all the activities of the Organization. Volume I of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 presented the general lines of emphasis of the action proposed for the coming biennium, while Volume II recapitulated the detailed activities. With regard to the activities specifically aimed at women, the budgetary allocation had been increased by 19.6 per cent in relation to the preceding biennium, entailing an allocation of 2.7 per cent of the total budget for major programme activities in 1986-1987 as compared with 2.3 per cent in 1984-1985. The bulk of women-related activities proposed in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 had been given first priority, and this high priority had been supported by the Executive Board in its recommendations to the General Conference. Regarding the integration of a female dimension in the activities of the Organization, different measures were foreseen. Efforts would be made to encourage the participation of women in training activities, meetings and seminars, and in the elaboration and execution of various activities the interests, points of view and perspectives of women would be taken into account.

(10) Finally, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming stressed the special character of the debate in Commission I concerning Major Programme XIV, as the major programme was of a cross-sectional nature. The various activities recapitulated in Volume II of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 would be examined in detail by the other Commissions, the task of

Commission I being to consider the general lines of emphasis of Major Programme XIV. The Commission might thus seek to answer the following questions: To what extent do the general lines of emphasis of Major Programme XIV correspond to the analysis of problems, strategy of action and priorities formulated in the second Medium-Term Plan? To what extent do the various proposed activities correspond to the general lines of emphasis of Major Programme XIV? To what extent do the modalities of action correspond to the needs and interests of women? To what extent do the priorities proposed in document 23 C/5 correspond to the wishes of the General Conference? Thus, the debate in Commission I would give the Director-General indications for the execution of the proposed activities and measures, provide elements for reflection in connection with the elaboration of future programmes, and facilitate the work of the other commissions when they examined and approved the various activities recapitulated in Major Programme XIV.

Debate

(11) In the debate concerning unit 20 and item 4.5, 45 representatives of Member States took the floor, one speaking on behalf of five Member States. The observer from the Palestine Liberation Organization and the representative of one non-governmental organization also took the floor.

(12) Almost unanimous appreciation was expressed during the debate of the efforts made by Unesco to improve the status of women, and it was felt that the Organization made a significant contribution in this area. Some speakers underlined that the efforts were insufficient in relation to the existing needs of women, but it was acknowledged that financial constraints limited Unesco's action. One speaker was of the opinion that previous resolutions and decisions relating to women taken by the General Conference and Executive Board had not been followed up in a satisfactory way.

(13) Those speakers who commented on document 23 C/18, displayed their interest in a report that gave a comprehensive, realistic and instructive picture of the activities of the Organization concerning women.

(14) Almost all delegates gave their support to the proposed activities in Major Programme XIV. One speaker stressed that he would have preferred certain changes in the activities, but, respecting the consensus, he would refrain from submitting proposals. Many delegates expressed their satisfaction with the increased budgetary allocations to the activities aimed specifically at women and the high priority given to most of these activities. It was generally felt that the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 was in accordance with Major Programme XIV in the second Medium-Term Plan. One speaker felt there was a gap between the innovative ideas of the

second Medium-Term Plan and the orientation of the different programme activities.

Form and contents of Major Programme XIV

(15) The form and contents of Major Programme XIV were discussed by a number of speakers. Many delegates supported the multidisciplinary approach and cross-sectional character of the Organization's activities relating to women. In this connection, it was felt that the task of co-ordination was essential, several speakers expressing their appreciation of the establishment of a co-ordination unit, commending the Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women for her work and stressing the need to strengthen the Co-ordinator's office in the future. One speaker underlined that the Co-ordinator should have the right of initiative, the right to propose projects and to participate in the planning of the different major programmes, as well as in the continuing and final evaluation. Two speakers thought more co-ordinated programmes related to women should be developed.

(16) Different views were expressed with regard to the role and structure of Major Programme XIV. One speaker felt it was not a real major programme, as it did not have adequate funds and personnel, and another speaker expressed the wish that a special programme for the status of women should be considered. The question was raised of the desirability of having a major programme particularly aimed at women. Other supported the existing major programme. Some acknowledged that the title 'major programme' was confusing, as it differed from the other major programmes, but thought the recapitulation of different activities concerning women was fruitful. Others stressed that Major Programme XIV gave increased importance and visibility to the efforts to improve the status of women and created a point of convergence for these efforts. Regarding the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, some delegates felt the activities lacked focus and cohesion. Others considered the presentation of the main themes of action in paragraph 14007 to be useful, and one stated that a lack of coherence might in part be due to the fact that the various activities were presented according to subprogrammes instead of these main themes of action. It was underlined that the present Major Programme XIV had an experimental character and the experiences should be discussed during the elaboration of the Organization's third Medium-Term Plan.

(17) The twofold strategy of action of the Organization in working for equality between the sexes received broad support. Some delegates maintained that this was the only or optimal strategy of action to improve the status of women. The various measures described in Volume I of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 to integrate a

female dimension in the activities of the Organization were appreciated, and many delegates stressed that integration must take place within all the major programmes. Particular emphasis was placed on the increased participation of women in training courses, meetings and seminars and as beneficiaries of fellowships and consultant assignments, two delegates advocating the use of 'positive discrimination' in the form of remedial measures in this connection. According to one speaker, real integration of a female dimension implied a change in the whole of society and its structures. The importance of activities aimed specifically at improving the status of women was generally accepted. One speaker was of the opinion that special treatment of women was in itself a form of discrimination, and that all activities should benefit both women and men. Another speaker supported specific women's activities only to enhance their integration in all aspects of life and societies.

Analysis of the situation of women

(18) The speeches brought out the diversity and highly complex nature of the issues concerning the status of women: the diversity stemming from the fact that their situation varies according to the economic, social, political and cultural setting, the complexity stemming from the fact that issues concerning women involve all aspects of human activity. Several delegates reviewed the progress made in their countries regarding the status of women. Some speakers pointed out that the situation of women varied not only from one society to the other, but also from time to time. In her country, periods of regression had followed periods of rapid evolution of the status of women, one speaker observed, and others noted that reforms concerning women had been introduced after the achievement of national independence or after a revolution. One speaker stressed the challenge created by the rapidly changing social, economic and technological world of today.

(19) Assessing the results of the United Nations Decade for Women, most delegates acknowledged that progress had been achieved, though some characterized the gains as 'small' or 'discouraging'. It was stated that the Decade had led to increased consciousness among women and an enhanced visibility and better understanding of their situation. Efforts to attain the goals of the Decade: Equality, Development and Peace, had been intensified. In many countries, the most marked progress had been achieved in the area of legislation; equality between the sexes and equal rights with regard to political participation, education and employment being now guaranteed by law. But legislative inequalities still persisted, and where legal reforms had been introduced, social, economic, political and cultural factors often perpetuated de facto injustice and inequality. Delegates from

several Member States reported that the representation of women in political bodies at the national and local levels had increased, in some countries attaining about a third or more, but generally the participation was low. Many delegates regretted the large number of illiterate women in the world and the often limited access of women and girls to basic education. Even where educational facilities were well developed, it was stated that the representation of women usually was relatively small at the higher educational levels and in the fields of science and technology. It was stated that in some countries the access of women to higher education, science and technology was considerable. Several speakers stressed the participation of women in the labour force, some pointing to efforts to assure equal access to paid employment and equal pay as well as measures to facilitate the combining of work and family responsibilities, others regretting the long working hours and double responsibilities many women had to cope with in practice in addition to low or negligible pay.

(20) It was also acknowledged that the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women had not yet been achieved, and, regarding the obstacles to further improvement of the status of women, some delegates stressed that not only structural factors, but also traditional customs, attitudes and value orientations as well as cultural stereotypes contributed to maintaining inequality. Others underlined the significance of economic difficulties, times of economic crisis entailing increased unemployment, especially for women. Still others were of the opinion that conflicts and threat of war were of basic importance, the arms race requiring resources that could otherwise be used to combat illiteracy and poverty, and women and children suffering particularly from aggression, colonialism and apartheid, as was the case in Palestine, Nicaragua and southern Africa.

(21) There was general agreement that much still remained to be done to achieve 'Equality, Development and Peace', some delegates stating that the creation of a more just and equitable society where full use was made of the capacities of all citizens was a tremendous task. In this connection, the recommendations of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Nairobi in July 1985, were considered to be of particular importance, and many delegates underlined that Unesco should actively follow up these recommendations, not only in the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 but also in future programmes and budgets and in the elaboration of the third Medium-Term Plan.

Action to be taken

(22) As regards the action to be taken, a number of delegates emphasized the importance of legal instruments in

the struggle for equality, development and peace, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, urging a more active implementation of the Convention. Some also stressed the Declaration on the Participation of Women in Promoting International Peace and Co-operation, especially in connection with the International Year of Peace.

Education

(23) The Commission was almost unanimous in considering women's access to education as the mainstay of any strategy aimed at ensuring equality between the sexes. Some speakers regarded the right to education as a fundamental right and basic goal, others perceived education as a means of combating discrimination based on sex and increasing the participation of women in economic, social, political and cultural life.

(24) The lines of emphasis in Unesco's educational programmes designated specifically for women (in Major Programmes II and V) were generally supported. The importance of eradicating illiteracy among women was stressed, as was the access of girls and women to vocational education and training leading to improvement of the economic status of women. Some underlined the need of women for training in agriculture, in the development and use of new technologies and in the skills of enterprise and self-support.

(25) The elimination of sex-stereotyped attitudes and descriptions from the educational system received special mention from several delegates. Unesco's efforts to identify and eliminate stereotypes in school books was commended, further the activities aimed at encouraging girls and women to study non-traditional subjects and enter into areas and positions traditionally regarded as unsuitable for women.

(26) Emphasis was given by several delegates to activities to train second-generation migrant girls and women. Moreover, the importance of non-formal education for women, education in rural areas and innovative projects to encourage the enrolment of girls in school were mentioned. One speaker regretted that Major Programme IV did not contain any elements specific to women.

Research and information

(27) Developing research and information activities concerning the status of women was supported by many delegates. Research was needed to clarify the status of women and understand the mechanisms creating and upholding discrimination based on sex. Multisectoral and comprehensive world surveys and studies were recommended to show the variation that exists in women's role and position and in the perception of them in different societies. It was underlined that studies and research should not only expose and analyse problems, but also describe

attempts, experiments and new strategies aimed at solving the problems. A warning was voiced against an approach which would study women in isolation from the larger social networks in which they operate, and some speakers suggested that the status of women should primarily be considered within the framework of the family, as this was the basic unit of society. Others found this approach incomplete, as it would not take women's multiple roles into account, among others their roles in professional life or food production. One speaker recommended a continuous review of the concepts and methods used in women's studies, for example the methods employed in the measurement of productivity.

(28) Several delegates recommended a wider educational use of research. Research projects should consciously be used as an agent for change, offering the participants possibilities of considering their situation. Further, a wider dissemination of research findings should take place, Unesco making more use of simple books, pamphlets, newsletters, radio programmes and video tapes to inform those outside of the intellectual milieu of insights that had been acquired. The establishment of centres for documentation on women was supported.

(29) The activities proposed in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 in the area of women's studies (Subprogrammes VI.4.4, XIII.4.1 and XIII.4.2) were appreciated, particular mention being made of the activities in relation to assaults on the dignity of women, especially through prostitution, and new roles of women and men in private and public life. It was noted that the study of women should become an integral part of the social and human sciences as well as the natural sciences as a whole, changing the focus of traditional scientific theory and research, but the process of achieving this was not simple.

(30) Training seminars, among others in the social sciences, for women in national liberation movements, particularly in South Africa and Namibia, were emphasized by several speakers. One speaker underlined the necessity of studying the living conditions of women in the occupied Arab territories and assisting Palestinian women with education and vocational training.

Participation in economic, social, political and cultural life

(31) Another field of activity referred to in many statements was the strengthening of women's participation in economic, social, political and cultural life. This was seen in two perspectives. Increased participation of women in the life of societies would imply a better use of the resources of half of the population, resources which were urgently needed in the development process. It was also stressed that women and men should have the same responsibilities and take an equal part in decision-making so that the views and thoughts of women could be

heard, respected and discussed in political bodies, law courts, places of business and culture.

(32) The efforts of Unesco to increase the role of women in development and their participation in political, economic, social and cultural life were appreciated. A number of speakers would have preferred a greater contribution on the part of the Organization. Some felt that the social activity of women for their rights and for the maintenance of peace could be better reflected. Others maintained that more attention should be given to the area of women and development, this being taken into account during the elaboration of the third Medium-Term Plan. A desire was also expressed to allocate more fellowships to women in connection with the mobilization of human resources (Subprogramme VIII.3.2).

(33) Several speakers regretted that the major programme on culture (Major Programme XI) only contained a limited number of activities aimed specifically at women, and considered that in the preparation of future programmes the area of women and culture should be given greater importance. Cultural factors were fundamental for the change of mentalities in society, it was stated.

(34) A number of delegates supported the proposed activities regarding the contribution of the media to promoting equality between women and men and strengthening women's access to and participation in communication. Some delegates noted particularly the development of new information technologies and said women must be adequately represented at all levels in this development, otherwise male approaches and fantasies would be fully reflected in them. Training programmes providing women with the necessary skills were recommended. Other delegates stressed the importance of studies of the image of women in the media, one hoping these activities could be expanded. Special studies on programmes that may be an incitement to physical violence and encourage prostitution was considered a significant step towards eradicating media presentations that incited sexual assaults against women.

Programme execution

(35) With regard to methods of programme execution, the Commission supported extensive collaboration with international women's non-governmental organizations and national, regional and international institutions interested in women's questions. Continued co-operation with the United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies as well as other intergovernmental organizations was recommended, one speaker pointing in particular to the Commission on the Status of Women and INSTRAW.

(36) Regional differences should be given more attention during the execution of the programme activities of the Organization, according to some delegates.

(37) Many delegates expressed the

desire of their countries to participate in the execution of the activities aimed at improving the status of women. Some urged the Member States to increase the participation of women in economic, social, political and cultural life in their countries and to submit more women candidates for training courses, meetings and seminars as well as fellowships organized or administered by Unesco.

Evaluation

(38) In the evaluation of Unesco's activities the necessity of statistical data was emphasized by several speakers. Referring to document 23 C/11, the inclusion of statistics concerning the representation of women among consultants and fellowship-holders was welcomed, even if the figures showed a grim picture of the under-representation of women. It was acknowledged that it was difficult first to try to integrate a female dimension in the general programme activities, and then have it registered and evaluated, but not until the female dimension was made visible in the documents would there be ways to evaluate the endeavours of the Organization in this area, it was stated. Therefore, more data broken down by sex were desired. As experience had shown that the integration of a female dimension created greater problems than foreseen, it was further necessary to study the reasons for this in a realistic and systematic way, according to other speakers.

Women staff in Unesco's Secretariat

(39) Many delegates drew the attention to the low representation of women among the staff at the Professional level and above in the Secretariat, requesting that renewed efforts be made to increase the percentage of women. Some held the view that it was difficult for Unesco to be credible in its efforts to promote equality between women and men in the world, if the equal rights of women were not ensured in the Organization itself. The measures adopted to improve the representation of women among the Professional staff in the Secretariat should be implemented more effectively or new measures should be adopted to attain the goal of 27 per cent women, which in itself was modest enough, it was maintained. The measures proposed in paragraph 132 of document 23 C/18 were supported by several speakers. One added that they only represented a first step. Another speaker advocated the introduction of five-year targets at each level for the percentage of women in the Professional and higher categories: by 1990, 30 per cent of the posts should be held by women, and additional targets should be set every five years. Several speakers urged Member States to submit more women candidates for vacant posts. Regarding the staff already employed, one speaker hoped that equality of women would be made the goal, particularly of staff members in decision-making positions.

(40) Finally, some delegates expressed their appreciation of the fact that the discussion of Major Programme XIV had been placed at the beginning of the session, so that the discussion could be reflected in the whole General Conference. It was regretted, though, that too little time had been allocated to the debate on this item.

Reply by the representatives of the Director-General

(41) In his reply to the discussion, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming thanked the delegates for the broad support they had given to the efforts of the Organization towards improving the status of women and expressed his appreciation of an extremely rich debate in which fine shades of opinion had been expressed. This debate was a consequence of the creation of Major Programme XIV, he noted. The structure of Major Programme XIV was not simple, and at the fourth extraordinary session of the General Conference it had been regarded as a pragmatic solution to give the necessary coherence to activities for women and the integration of a female dimension in the other major programmes. The approach was promising, but the structure and contents would be reviewed during the elaboration of the third Medium-Term Plan. All the ideas presented during the debate would be taken into account during the execution of the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 and the preparation of future programmes.

(42) The Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women observed that the debate showed the complexity of the women's question, stemming from the multiple roles of women, which involved all aspects of society, and the diversity of women's situations and of perceptions of women, due to the variety of socio-economic and cultural contexts. This led to different emphases, priorities and strategies, which would be taken into account in the execution of the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 as well as in future programmes.

(43) It was noted that the delegates in general were of the opinion that progress had been achieved during the United Nations Decade for Women, but that much still remained to be done, taking into account the complex interplay of various factors: economic and political interests, social structures and cultural traditions and perceptions.

(44) The analyses of the situation of women presented during the debate emphasized to a great extent the same themes as Major Programme XIV, the Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women stated, above all the access of girls and women to education and training, the participation of women in political, economic, social and cultural life and the development of research and information activities concerning the status of women. Some changes in emphasis and themes had moreover been suggested.

(45) Major Programme XIV had received broad support, and the high priority given to most of the activities had been appreciated. Special support was given to the multidisciplinary approach and cross-sectional co-ordination of the activities relating to women. Generally, the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 was considered in accordance with the second Medium-Term Plan and the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace.

(46) Many delegates emphasized the integration of a female dimension in all the activities of the Organization, and the Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women stated that during the elaboration of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 all activities had been reviewed to clarify elements specifically concerning women. The policy of increasing the representation of women in meetings, seminars and training courses, and as consultants and fellowship-holders, applied generally to all programmes, and the fact that women were not mentioned specifically did not imply that the activity only involved men.

(47) As desired by many delegates, the Organization would actively follow up the recommendations of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Nairobi in July 1985. The efforts to achieve 'Equality, Development and Peace' were to be continued to the year 2000, and the 'Forward-looking Strategies' document included special chapters on education, science and technology and communication and drew attention to the usefulness of social science research. Relatively less attention was given to culture, though various aspects of cultural life were mentioned in different connections. Without going into details, there seemed to be no basic discrepancy between the recommendations of the Nairobi Conference and the programmes and budgets of Unesco, though some modifications of priorities and themes might be considered. The 'Forward-looking Strategies' document moreover requested increased co-ordination within the United Nations system in the area of women and development.

(48) The Co-ordinator for Activities relating to the Status of Women expressed her appreciation of the interest shown by the representatives of many Member States in collaborating with Unesco in the execution of the programme, and noted the importance attached to co-operation with non-governmental organizations and institutions dealing with women's issues.

(49) Regarding the proportion of women Professional staff in the Secretariat, it was stated that Unesco was among the United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies with the highest percentage of women. By the end of 1984, UNICEF had 23 per cent women among the Professional staff in geographical posts, Unesco had 22.8 per cent, the United Nations 22.5 per cent and World Health Organization (WHO) 17.7 per cent, International Labour Organisation 15.4 per

cent and Food and Agriculture Organization 12.3 per cent. But the percentage of women Professional staff in Unesco had increased only slightly during the last decade and the target of 27 per cent had not been reached.

(50) The Director-General had agreed to give preferential treatment to applications from women for posts in the Professional and higher categories in the Secretariat - subject, of course, to the necessary qualification requirements - even if they were nationals of countries which were slightly over-represented, but at a time when several hundred posts were being abolished, the improvement of the representation of women could not be considered independently of the measures of a general nature which needed to be taken. These measures were complex and difficult to finalize, and a variety of criteria had to be taken into account. Among these criteria, the fundamental principle of non-discrimination between women and men must be included. Moreover, special efforts would be made, as part of measures concerning staff redeployment and internal promotion within the Secretariat, to improve the representation of women in senior posts.

Recommendations concerning Major Programme XIV

(51) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.93 submitted by Australia was withdrawn.

(52) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.139 was submitted by France and draft resolution 23 C/DR.146 was submitted by Norway on behalf of the five Nordic countries. In the debate concerning these two resolutions and the proposed resolution 14.1 in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, the representatives of 15 Member States took the floor. A working group including representatives from France, the German Democratic Republic, Guinea, Norway, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was established, and the Commission adopted by consensus the unanimous recommendations from the group, in the case of 23 C/DR.146 as further amended by the representative of Gabon.

(53) The proposed resolution 14.1 in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 was adopted by consensus as amended by draft resolution 23 C/DR.130. The new subparagraph 6 was worded as follows:

'Taking into consideration all the relevant recommendations made by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6, and particularly paragraphs 171 to 177 relating to Major Programme XIV,'.

The next subparagraph (new 7) began as follows:

'Authorizes the Director-General to continue on this basis:'

and the rest as in the proposed resolution 14.1 (23 C/Resolution 14.1).

(54) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.146 was adopted by consensus after two paragraphs had been amended (23 C/Resolution 14.2). Thus, paragraph 2, subparagraph (a), of that resolution read as follows:

'to envisage as far as is possible, in the preparation of the next biennial programme and budget, within the overall budget limits, a further increase in the financial and personnel resources for programmes specifically designed for women,'

and paragraph 2, subparagraph (c), read as follows:

'to continue his efforts towards achieving an equal participation of women and men and to take practical measures, for example, temporary preferential treatment, in order to increase substantially the representation of women in posts at all levels in the Professional and higher categories in the Unesco Secretariat, at Headquarters as well as in the Field, bearing in mind the overall context for the staff of the Secretariat, and in, *inter alia*, consultant assignments, training courses, seminars, exchange programmes, bursaries and scholarships which are organized or administered by Unesco;'.

(55) The Commission decided unanimously to transmit the two adopted resolutions through the appropriate channels

to the Administrative and Programme Commissions of the General Conference so that they could be taken into account before the completion of the work of the Commissions.

(56) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plan contained in paragraphs 14003 to 14008 and to recommend that the budgetary allocation of US \$423,500 for the co-ordination of activities relating to the status of women in paragraph 14001 be adopted.

Recommendation concerning documents
23 C/12 and 23 C/18

(57) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the special reports by Member States on the progress made in attaining the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women contained in document 23 C/12, and the report of the Director-General on Unesco's contribution towards improving the status of women contained in document 23 C/18.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 1 - MAJOR PROGRAMME I:
REFLECTION ON WORLD PROBLEMS AND FUTURE-ORIENTED STUDIES

(58) Commission I devoted its 7th and 8th meetings to consideration of unit 1 relating to Major Programme I, 'Reflection on world problems and future-oriented studies', of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

(59) In his introductory statement, the Chairman of the Commission said that the implementation of Major Programme I was to be seen in the context both of Unesco's specific intellectual mission and of the execution of the Medium-Term Plan. The Chairman also stated what the mandate of the Commission was, namely to consider the proposals contained in paragraphs 01001 to 01312 of document 23 C/5 and to express its preference for one of the two options proposed under Major Programme I. The Chairman said that the Executive Board, at its 121st session, had declared itself in favour of option 2.

(60) The acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, representing the Director-General, then presented Major Programme I. He began by describing its two objectives, which were to guide Unesco towards making its own specific contribution to the international community's reflection on world problems, and, through a deeper understanding of world problems, to facilitate decisions about what the Organization should do. The representative of the Director-General went on to say that the initial structure of Major Programme I featured two distinct programmes - Programme I.1, entitled 'Studies and research on world problems', which was itself divided into three subprogrammes, and Programme I.2, entitled 'International future-oriented study'.

(61) However, the views expressed by Member States during the consultation organized in 1984 concerning the preparation of document 23 C/5 and the lessons learned from the execution of Major Programme I had led to some adjustments being made to the structure of the programme. The representative of the Director-General described the two options prepared in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Executive Board at its 120th session. Option 1 presented in document 23 C/5 (paragraphs 01001 to 01208 of Volume 2 of document 23 C/5) kept strictly to the initial arrangement of Major Programme I as set out in the Medium-Term Plan, but with the amalgamation of the three subprogrammes of Programme I.1 and a greater degree of flexibility in the timetable for the preparation in the international future-oriented study provided for under Programme I.2. The representative of the Director-General then described the content of Programmes I.1 and I.2 and went on to explain the main features of option 2. These were the abolition of the formal distinction between Programmes I.1 and I.2, the maintenance of all the activities described in option 1 under Programme I.1 and the reduction of the activities carried out in connection with international future-oriented reflection, in particular the abolition of the International Scientific Committee and of the international future-oriented study as a separate study.

(62) The representative of the Director-General emphasized that option 2, if adopted, would result in maximum concentration in terms of the programme as well as of the budget: the

budget of Major Programme I would be reduced by 29.2 per cent compared with that of the present biennium, whereas in the case of option 1 it would be reduced by 10.1 per cent. He recalled that the Executive Board, in its recommendation to the General Conference, more especially in paragraph 36 of document 23 C/6, had recommended approval of option 2 and the transfer to first priority of the programme action in paragraph 01309 of document 23 C/5 entitled 'Foreseeable developments in the fields of competence of Unesco'.

(63) The representative of the Director-General concluded his introduction of Major Programme I by emphasizing that co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system, and the international non-governmental organizations would be strengthened in the context of programme execution. In that connection, he pointed out that co-operation would be developed particularly with the United Nations University. Finally, he stressed that Unesco, which was the forum for encounter and dialogue for different cultures and the forum par excellence of intellectual co-operation, could not but endorse a task that was undertaken in accordance with an interdisciplinary, intersectoral and global approach.

(64) The representatives of 38 Member States and the representative of the European Academy of Arts, Sciences and Humanities took the floor during the debate devoted to consideration of unit 1.

(65) The great majority of participants spoke in favour of option 2 and of the transfer to first priority of the activities included in paragraph 01309 of document 23 C/5 ('Foreseeable developments in the fields of competence of Unesco').

(66) Many delegates, while expressing their support for option 2, regretted the abandonment of option 1, which would entail a reduction of the activities conducted under Major Programme I. Two delegates maintained their preference for option 1. Several delegates pointed out that both options represented less than the activities initially planned and constituted a retreat when seen in relation to the importance that should be accorded to the study of world problems. Conversely, other delegates felt that, given the present budgetary situation, it was reasonable to defer implementation of a number of activities. One speaker expressed his appreciation of the 'more concentrated, more realistic activities' appearing in option 2.

(67) The matter of the status of implementation of Major Programme I was raised. Some delegates requested that 'greater attention' be given to Major Programme I, which, in the words of one speaker, should be 'strengthened rather than weakened'. Others wondered about the scale of the operations under Major Programme I and the composition and functioning of the analytical and research network. Two delegates stressed the importance that should be accorded to

intersectoral co-ordination so as to ensure a satisfactory linkage between the activities of Major Programme I and those conducted under other major programmes.

(68) The Commission almost unanimously reaffirmed the support which the General Conference had already given Major Programme I at its twenty-second session. It also presented a set of observations or proposals concerning the lines of emphasis and modalities of action of Major Programme I.

Significance and scope of Major Programme I

(69) The great majority of delegates expressed approval of the specific contribution that, within its fields of competence, Unesco proposed to make to reflection on world problems. One delegate observed that Major Programme I was fully in line with the tasks assigned to Unesco by its Constitution. Several speakers, moreover, emphasized the Organization's specific situation in that regard: within the United Nations system, Unesco was the first agency to undertake the study of world problems. Some delegates declared that they supported option 2 for the sake of the consensus; nevertheless, they wished to point out their reservations with regard to that major programme which, according to one of them, caused their governments 'serious concern'. One delegate said that he disapproved of that major programme.

(70) Several delegates referred to the difficulty of defining world problems. From country to country there were varying views about what constituted world problems and the dimensions of those problems. Definition of world problems and analysis of their dimensions were thus one of the main tasks of the programme. Another delegate stressed the need for greater intellectual stringency to be shown in the execution of Major Programme I. One delegate expressed astonishment that the studies on the comparative method of research featured in document 22 C/5 were no longer mentioned in document 23 C/5. Certain delegates referred to the world problems, which in their view, called for analytical study and the preparation of appropriate activities in Unesco's fields of competence. They mentioned problems such as the prevention of a nuclear disaster, the elimination of inequalities connected with differing levels of economic, scientific, social and cultural development in different regions of the world, the restructuring of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis, the development of energy potential, the prevention of environmental pollution, the struggle against famine and the development of humanity's food resources, the exploration of ocean resources, the eradication of illiteracy and the democratization of education, the development of international co-operation in space research on a basis of non-militarization, etc. One delegate drew attention to the importance of Unesco's

active participation in the creation of an international climate of opinion favourable to the establishment and development, in a nuclear age, of new patterns of thinking.

(71) A number of delegates gave their views on the desirable lines of emphasis of Major Programme I. One speaker considered that that major programme should be a 'compass' with which to find a way through the labyrinthine situations of today. Several delegates drew attention to the positive contribution Major Programme I could make to peace and international understanding. One delegate ascribed to it a dual purpose: to work for peace and for development. Another speaker expressed the wish that the implementation of this programme should help promote a 'new international economic and social order' based on 'universal harmony'. Similarly one delegate gave prominence to the fundamental role that Major Programme I could play in 'the definition of alternative strategies for Third World countries', on condition that the activities therein were 'operational and pragmatic'. Another delegate hoped that political polemics would be avoided in the execution of the major programme.

(72) Generally speaking, a good number of delegates spoke favourably of the approach which underlay Major Programme I. One delegate stressed that Unesco should be neither 'a technical assistance agency' nor a 'centre for intellectual speculation', but rather a 'focal centre for reflection' capable of receiving and distributing data, particularly through the network and its co-ordinating committee. Other delegates held that Major Programme I should play the part of a 'catalyst' or a 'vector' of the various aspects of reflection on world problems.

(73) Several speakers considered that the implementation of Major Programme I should, among other things, facilitate the preparation of the lines of emphasis of future programmes, with a view, in particular, to adapting the third Medium-Term Plan to 'new problems that will emerge'.

(74) Most delegates stressed the need for greater account to be taken, in implementing the major programme, of the various 'philosophical, political and linguistic' sensitivities. They also expressed the wish for suitable prominence to be given to the trends that were finding expression in different regions of the world. They called finally for a multidisciplinary approach. One speaker illustrated that pluralist wish by saying that a tree had to be seen 'from its roots and not only from its branches and leaves'. One delegate said he hoped that implementation of Major Programme I would enable certain groups usually pushed to the background, such as women, rural populations, illiterates, the handicapped, etc., to express their points of view. Finally, one delegate said that the female dimension should be integrated into the future-oriented studies mentioned in paragraph 01309 of document 23 C/5.

Implementation of Major Programme I

(75) The delegates were all agreed on the importance of the tasks assigned to the Co-ordinating Committee and to the analytical and research network. One speaker suggested that the Co-ordinating Committee should work in close conjunction with the National Commissions and Regional Offices of Unesco. The co-operation established with the United Nations University was welcomed by several delegates. They also welcomed Unesco's co-operation with the other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system, and with international non-governmental organizations and relevant research institutions.

(76) Several delegates stressed that 'overlapping' or duplication with other research projects, whether completed or ongoing, should be avoided. One delegate thus felt that Unesco should attempt first of all to make use of the considerable number of future-oriented studies undertaken both inside and outside the United Nations system.

(77) Many speakers expressed the wish that the analytical and research network should be enlarged and strengthened so that it more closely reflected the regional balance. One delegate pointed out that, as it now stood, the network was based on existing research networks and hence mirrored the North-South disequilibrium in the area of research. He went on to suggest that support actions, by such means as the joint studies referred to in paragraph 01308 of document 23 C/5, should be carried out in favour of national institutions that did not yet have adequate means. Another speaker noted that current members of the network generally had a sound financial basis and that preference should therefore be given to financial assistance for national or regional institutions in disadvantaged countries. One delegate suggested that, as part of the execution of Major Programme I, an 'African Human Resources Bank' should be set up and possibly linked to Unesco.

(78) One delegate stressed the need to take the female dimension into consideration in the establishment of the analytical and research network.

(79) Several delegates expressed the wish that the results of the work undertaken under Major Programme I should be made widely available and their circulation 'speeded up'. One delegate expressed the wish that the two-yearly synoptic report on the activities of the research network should also be made available in Arabic and Chinese. Another speaker proposed that the half-yearly newsletter for network members should become an annual publication instead. The savings thus made could, in his view, be more usefully applied to the activities described in paragraph 01308 ('Promotion of research on world problems').

(80) One delegate proposed that, in view of its importance, Major Programme I should be the subject of a 'special

conference' of experts under the auspices of Unesco.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(81) The representative of the Director-General began by noting the almost unanimous support expressed for Major Programme I. In number and quality, the statements made by delegates demonstrated the interest that the major programme had aroused. He had, incidentally, taken note of the offers made by many delegates to take part in the implementation of the programme.

(82) He welcomed the consensus that had emerged in favour of option 2 and the transfer to first priority of the activities set out in paragraph 01309 of document 23 C/5, and this in spite of certain differences in the initial positions.

(83) Several general observations on Major Programme I could be made as a result of the debate. Major Programme I had two functions, which were promotion of the study of world problems and the preparation of the next Medium-Term Plan. It would also be advisable to ensure proper co-ordination in the execution of Major Programme I so as to avoid duplication with studies already carried out by bodies other than Unesco.

(84) Promotion of the study of world problems should take two things into account. Attention should be focused on those aspects of world problems that had hitherto been studied least, while encouragement should be given to articulating views of these problems in those regions that were still without adequate resources; this could be achieved, particularly by means of the joint studies and research allocations that appealed in paragraph 01308.

(85) The second function of Major Programme I was to lay the necessary foundations for the preparation of the next Plan. That requirement explained the cautious approach adopted in the implementation of Major Programme I so as to ensure support for it from as many Member States as possible.

(86) As regards the definition and analysis of world problems, the representative of the Director-General recalled the references that appeared in 21 C/Resolution 100, and was of the opinion that the members of the Commission had given a broad general survey of those problems in their statements. In any event, it was for the analytical and research network to define its own research themes and the analytical methods to be applied. The representative of the Director-General, in reply to one delegate's question, said that difficulties in research made the preparation of the study methods provided for in paragraph 01106, subparagraph (b) of document 23 C/5 all the more relevant. As an example, he cited how the methods deriving from systems analysis could be applied to the study of world problems.

(87) So far as the scope of work already carried out under Major

Programme I was concerned, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming said that when work on a new area of research was begun, the prime concern of staff in the Secretariat had been to establish 'the state of the art' on the various aspects of world problems. That approach explained the low cost of the contracts concluded under Major Programme I. He also explained that once that preliminary stage was over, the execution of activities, and in particular those of the network, could continue in a far more satisfactory way during the next biennium, as soon as the Co-ordinating Committee mentioned in paragraph 01306 of document 23 C/5 had defined the subject-matter specific to the network.

(88) In reply to questions put by several delegates on the enlargement of the analytical and research network, the representative of the Director-General expressed a wish for wider participation by institutions and researchers in the developing countries and for the preservation of the network's intellectual autonomy. As regards publications, he said that the two-yearly synoptic report would be available in English, French, Russian and Spanish. The newsletter on the network's activities, which was an internal document, would alone be published in English and French only, as an economy measure.

(89) Concluding the discussion of unit 1, the Chairman expressed his satisfaction at the quality of the debate and the constructive spirit in which it had taken place.

Amendments to draft resolution

(90) The delegate of the United Kingdom submitted an oral amendment to subparagraph 5 (b) of the resolution proposed in paragraph 01302 of document 23 C/5. Subparagraph 5 (b), as amended, reads as follows:

(b) 'to see that the help which is sought will permit the expression of the various cultures, sensitivities and schools of thought, which contribute to the achievement of the purpose and functions of Unesco as set out in its Constitution and to ensure that the views of women are given suitable prominence in this work'.

(91) The delegate from France submitted draft resolution 23 C/DR.127. In view of the note by the Director-General, the final text of this draft resolution will read as follows:

(a) 'to insert in the resolution proposed in paragraph 01302, a new subparagraph 3 worded as follows. "Taking into consideration all the relevant recommendations made by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6 and particularly in paragraphs 35 to 39 relating to Major Programme I".

(b) to modify the following subparagraph (new 4) thus: "Authorizes the Director-General to continue on this basis the implementation ... (rest unchanged)";

(c) Add before the paragraph that begins

"Further requests the Director-General ...", a new paragraph to read as follows: "Decides to maintain in Part II.A, in accordance with the Executive Board's recommendation in paragraph 36 of document 23 C/6, the work plan activities with two asterisks (first priority) and the activity proposed in paragraph 01309, which should also be classified as having first priority".

(92) The Commission decided by consensus to adopt the amendments, set out above, to resolution 1.1 proposed by the Director-General (paragraph 01302 of document 23 C/5).

Recommendations

(93) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan for Major Programme I (document 23 C/5, paragraphs 01301 to 01312).

(94) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference that it approve for Major Programme I an appropriation of US \$1,880,000 under the regular programme (paragraphs 01001 and 01301 of document 23 C/5), after placing a sum of US \$507,000 in reserve under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds'),* it being understood that the total of these appropriations could be modified in the light of any adjustments resulting from the distribution of the Reserve for Draft Resolutions or of any other possible adjustment decided on by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(95) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference that it should adopt resolution 1.1 proposed by the Director-General (paragraph 01302), document 23 C/5) in its amended form (23 C/Resolution 1.1).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.13 - METHODS OF PREPARATION OF THE THIRD MEDIUM-TERM PLAN AND TIMETABLE FOR ITS EXAMINATION AND ADOPTION

(96) Commission I devoted its ninth meeting to the discussion of item 3.13 of its agenda: 'Methods of preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan and timetable for its examination and adoption'.

(97) The Chairman reminded the Commission that the item had been included in the agenda of the twenty-third session of the General Conference in pursuance of a recommendation of the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board endorsed by the Board. The Executive Board, incidentally, had itself examined document 23 C/4, which was submitted to the General Conference, and had made its own recommendations on the subject, which were contained in document 23 C/4 Addendum. The Chairman added that the item was of great importance in the work of Commission I, which had to give its views not only on the date for the adoption of the next Medium-Term Plan but also on the timetable for its preparation.

(98) Introducing document 23 C/4, the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, representing the Director-General, reminded the meeting of the three hypotheses which had been considered with regard to the timetable for the adoption of the Medium-Term Plan for 1990-1995:

adoption in 1989, at the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference (hypothesis 1);
adoption in 1987, at the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference (hypothesis 2);
adoption in 1988, at an extraordinary session of the General Conference (hypothesis 3).

(99) All three hypotheses included the same stages, based on the provisions of resolution 100, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session, concerning the preparation of the second Medium-Term Plan: a consultation in

writing, in the form of a questionnaire, of Member States, Associate Members, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and National Commissions for Unesco; submission to the Executive Board of a report by the Director-General, including a summary of the replies to the consultation, on the preparation of the Medium-Term Plan; preparation of the Draft Medium-Term Plan on the basis of the Executive Board's directives; and consideration and adoption of the Plan by the General Conference.

(100) After considering briefly the advantages and drawbacks of the three hypotheses set out in document 23 C/4, the representative of the Director-General reminded the Commission of the substance of the Executive Board's recommendation to the General Conference on the subject; the Board had stated its preference for hypothesis 1 (adoption of the Plan in 1989), but wished the process for the preparation of the Plan to be set in motion during the 1986-1987 biennium. For that purpose, the Board proposed 'to study at its 124th session, in consultation with the Director-General, the problems raised by the preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan, particularly as regards the procedures for its preparation, the organization of the necessary consultations and the timetable for the

* It should be noted in this connection - and the same applies to all the other reports in this volume - that the General Conference, acting on the report of the Joint Meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission, decided that the title of Part IX should be worded as follows: 'Programmes, activities and services placed in reserve'.

preparatory work'. It also recommended to the General Conference that it invite the Director-General to submit a report on the preparation of the Plan to it at its twenty-fourth session in 1987.

(101) Twenty-seven members of the Commission and the representative of an intergovernmental organization spoke in the course of the ensuing discussion.

Timetable for the adoption of the Medium-Term Plan

(102) The speeches bore mainly on the timetable for the adoption of the third Medium-Term Plan by the General Conference. While pointing out that all three hypotheses mentioned in document 23 C/4 had drawbacks, the very great majority of members of the Commission expressed their preference for hypothesis 1, i.e. adoption of the Plan in 1989. One of the most frequently cited advantages of that course was that it allowed sufficient time - nearly three years - to prepare the Plan in the best possible conditions, and in particular to conduct thorough consultations. This point of view received strong support from many delegations. It provided a guarantee that the Plan would be up to date, since it would thus be prepared as close as possible to the date when it would be put into effect. Lastly, it would enable the results of the evaluation work carried out in connection with the second Medium-Term Plan, and those of the studies on world problems carried out under Major Programme I, to be incorporated into the process for the preparation of the third Plan.

(103) Attention was drawn, furthermore, to the disadvantages of hypothesis 2, i.e. adoption of the Plan in 1987: there would be too long a time lapse, in a rapidly changing world, between the preparation of the Plan and its effective implementation; but, on the other hand, too little time for its preparation, which could only be done in haste; and there would not yet be enough information available for an assessment of the implementation of the current Medium-Term Plan. So far as hypothesis 3 (adoption of the new Plan in 1988) was concerned - even though some members of the Commission felt that the fourth extraordinary session had established an extremely satisfactory precedent - there was nevertheless a major drawback in the cost it involved for both Member States and the Organization. It would also mean, as one speaker pointed out, that the General Conference would be meeting in three successive years and that, between July and September 1987, the Secretariat would have to analyse the results of the consultation on the Plan and at the same time prepare for the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference.

(104) Some members of the Commission, referring to the disadvantages of hypothesis 1, pointed out that there would also be a very heavy workload in 1989 - both for the Secretariat, which would have simultaneously to prepare a draft Plan

and a draft Programme, and for Member States, which would have to examine the two documents together. In the circumstances, the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference would very probably have to be extended by at least one week, which, according to one speaker, would place a very heavy burden on the budgets of certain Member States. He himself preferred the extraordinary session hypothesis, taking the view that it would be better to spread that additional financial burden over two years. The main risk inherent in hypothesis 1, it was added, was to commit Member States, so far as the Programme and Budget for 1990-1991 (25 C/5) was concerned, to a draft Plan that they would not have been able to approve - and, it might be, to amend - beforehand.

(105) At the conclusion of its discussions, the Commission none the less decided in favour of hypothesis 1, on the understanding that the timetable for the preparation of the Plan and the work of the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference would have to be planned with the utmost care so that the process could be initiated at the very beginning of the 1986-1987 biennium.

Nature, form and content of the Plan

(106) Various suggestions were also made about the nature, form and scope of the third Medium-Term Plan. Many members of the Commission made a point of drawing attention to the fundamental importance of that Plan as a policy document to serve as the basis for all the Organization's activities during the last decade of the twentieth century.

(107) Many members also considered that the new Plan should be flexible enough to keep pace with changing ideas and problems and to incorporate new needs as and when they arose. The third Plan should be less detailed and less complex, shorter and more concrete and, as such, more readable than the second Plan. It should be possible, not only during its preparation but in the actual course of its execution, for account to be taken of the results of the evaluation work and studies carried out under Major Programme I - and for the appropriate adjustments to be made to it.

(108) One member of the Commission drew attention in that connection to what he called the undue rigidity of the second Medium-Term Plan, which, he said, was leading to the rejection of certain requests by Member States on the ground that they were not directly covered by the Plan. The representative of the Director-General reminded the Commission that Member States were always at liberty to propose adjustments to the Medium-Term Plan, as provided for by 21 C/Resolution 100; one of the objects of the Director-General's consultation with Member States was, moreover, to identify any new needs which might arise and for which provision might thus be made in the biennial programmes, on the basis of the guidelines given to the Director-General

by the Executive Board. An example was the establishment of an intergovernmental informatics programme, proposed in document 23 C/5, for which no provision had been made in the Plan.

(109) Some members of the Commission, however, felt that, while the Plan might profitably be made more flexible, that should not cause it to be less precise. Was not one of the criticisms often levelled at the first Medium-Term Plan the fact that it had been too vague? As a policy document, the Plan had to strike a delicate balance between the points of view of the different Member States, and that balance should be carefully specified and maintained. Several members added that it was also desirable to draw a clear distinction between plan and programme. The Plan defined the objectives which Member States decided, by common accord, to set for the Organization's activities over a given period. As such, it represented an intellectual and moral commitment on the part of the international community which could not be perpetually challenged.

(110) In more general terms, some members of the Commission wondered what functions, scope and duration should be assigned to the next Plan. Should the third Medium-Term Plan have a fixed-term horizon or be a rolling plan? A six- or four-year plan? How detailed should it be? To what extent should the formulation of the biennial programmes be linked with the provisions of the Plan? One member of the Commission, speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries, considered that these questions should be placed in the more general context of the process of reflection that was under way in the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board regarding the strengthening of the respective roles of the Board and the General Conference. One hypothesis put forward in the proceedings of the Temporary Committee was that the Plan might become the principal working instrument of the General Conference; the speaker added that acceptance of that hypothesis would lead to profound changes in the very nature and functions of the Plan.

(111) Reference was also made in several statements to the main lines of emphasis which might form the basis for the third Medium-Term Plan. Some members of the Commission dwelt on the continuity that should be established with the current Plan. Reaffirming the validity of the methodological approach, which consisted in taking the analysis of world problems as a starting-point, they considered that the conceptual guidelines and the structure of the second Medium-Term Plan should be retained and its main provisions should continue to feature in the plan for 1990-1995. Other speakers, on the other hand, considered that the third Medium-Term Plan should not be the mere repetition of the previous one, but should be based on a new outlook, so that Unesco might keep abreast of the times. According to one Commission member, for example, it was not one presentation of a set of world problems that was required,

but a presentation of different sets of problems, the reflection of a plural world whose different facets Major Programme I rightly sought to encapsulate.

(112) The question of concentration was raised several times. One member of the Commission dwelt on the need to concentrate the Organization's programme around a limited number of clearly defined themes, such as the eradication of illiteracy, training in all the Organization's fields of competence, or, again, the safeguarding of the natural environment and the cultural heritage. Several speakers considered that this represented too restrictive a definition of Unesco's action, limiting its scope far too severely in the light of the tasks assigned to the Organization in its Constitution. In the view of some members of the Commission, Unesco should concentrate its efforts on the solution of the global problems of humanity and on the exchange of the most recent experience in the fields of education, science and culture. Thus, according to one speaker, the eradication of illiteracy should come within the overall context of the educational process - which also included, for example, peace education. Another speaker, while stressing that concentration should not be carried out at the expense of the Organization's fundamental fields of competence as set out in the Preamble of the Constitution, was of the opinion that the contribution made by the social and human sciences to the solution of world problems should constitute one of the main lines of emphasis of the third Medium-Term Plan.

(113) From these discussions it transpired that it was too early for the Commission to come to a decision on matters that warranted more detailed examination and required in-depth consultations. It was in this context that a draft resolution - which had been submitted by Switzerland and whose preambular paragraphs contained criteria that helped to determine the role, objectives, format and content of the third Medium-Term Plan, and whose operative paragraphs sought to define the object and the nature of the consultation organized for preparation of the Plan - was withdrawn by its sponsors. Its principal aim, it was explained, had been to stimulate a preliminary exchange of views on these different themes within the Commission.

Timetable for preparation of the Plan

(114) The diversity as well as the wealth of ideas expressed in the points of view put forward made it all the more necessary, in the opinion of the Commission, to commence preparatory work on the Plan in the 1986-1987 biennium. While it approved the principal stages described in document 23 C/4 for the organization of this work, the Commission endorsed the recommendation of the Executive Board to extend the process for the preparation of the Plan by starting it

earlier and spreading it over two biennia.

(115) The members of the Commission, as a whole, considered that the 1986-1987 biennium could accordingly be devoted to examination of the technical questions related to the preparation of the Plan. This study would be entrusted to the Executive Board and the Director-General: both could, when the need arose, arrange consultations with the intellectual communities in the different countries. One Commission member stressed the need to involve all the institutions that co-operated with Unesco, in one way or another, in this process: National Commissions, and, in addition, academies, universities, professional circles, etc. The preparation of the Medium-Term Plan was, in fact, a unique opportunity for the Organization to demonstrate its intellectual dimension and to undertake searching reflection on the role of Unesco in the modern world.

(116) Several members of the Commission stressed how important the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference (1987) would be in the overall process of preparation of the Plan. Some of them emphasized the need to define accurately the nature and form of the main documents which were to be submitted to it, so that the General Conference might be in a position to give the Director-General precise directives for the preparation of the Draft Plan, in particular as concerns its structure, format and main lines of emphasis. One member of the Commission wished the General Conference to have at its disposal, by the twenty-fourth session, an initial outline plan, short but sufficiently precise to give rise to comments, which would also be precise, and thus to prepare the bases for the widest possible measure of agreement in 1989 at the time of the final adoption of the Plan. Another speaker envisaged the possibility of setting up within the General Conference, in 1987, a special commission to be responsible for examining questions relating to the preparation of the Plan, and in particular the forms and methods of the consultation of Member States.

(117) It was the unanimous wish of the members of the Commission that the consultation process should be as extensive, wide and diversified as possible. As regards the Director-General's written consultation, several members of the Commission proposed that the date for the sending out of the questionnaire and that for the receipt of replies be advanced in relation to the timetable foreseen in document 23 C/4, so as to give the Member States more time to organize their own consultations and for the Secretariat to analyse the conclusions. It was suggested that more time be given to the Member States, Associate Members and international governmental and non-governmental organizations to prepare their replies to the questionnaire, six months being, in the opinion of many speakers, a minimum, owing inter alia to the

communication difficulties experienced by many countries.

(118) Several speakers stressed that the questionnaire should be more simple and precise, and should be accompanied by clear instructions enabling Member States to participate in a more constructive manner in the consultation. One member of the Commission wanted it to be focused more on the lessons to be drawn from the second Medium-Term Plan than on general analyses, and wished it to cover questions linked both with the format of the Plan and with its content. Another speaker thought it was difficult for Member States to give rational and considered replies to the questions which they were asked when they were not in possession of sufficient information for assessing the results of the Plan currently being implemented. He proposed for that purpose that a document presenting an evaluation of the achievements in relation to the objectives of the second Medium-Term Plan and an analysis of the main trends in education, science, culture and communication at the end of the twentieth-century be attached to the questionnaire. Many members of the Commission emphasized that the results of the main evaluation work carried out in the framework of the second Medium-Term Plan - not only the C/11 documents but also the conclusions of the impact evaluations conducted between 1984 and 1987 - should be made available to Member States at the time of the consultation. One of them referred to the possibility that certain Member States might co-operate with the Organization to carry out new evaluation studies, covering for instance education and adult literacy work, the scientific programmes or the work done in the field of culture, in particular, in the context of the forthcoming World Decade for Cultural Development.

(119) In addition to the Director-General's written consultation, it was emphasized, there should be other forms of consultation, forms which should be as diversified as possible - such as visits to Member States, meetings of National Commissions or oral consultations - and involve the Regional Offices, the non-governmental organizations and the co-ordinating committees of the intergovernmental programmes. Emphasis was placed in that connection on the need to develop exchanges of views at regional and inter-regional levels. The representative of ALECSO, while welcoming the development of co-operation between Unesco and ALECSO in recent years, hoped that in-depth consultations would be undertaken with a view to strengthening the co-ordination between the Medium-Term Plans of the two organizations.

(120) As regards the organization of the twenty-fifth session of the General Conference (1989), which would be responsible for adopting the Plan, some speakers thought that lessons should be learned from the holding of the fourth extraordinary session; care must in particular be taken to prepare it very carefully and to allow all the time necessary

for in-depth discussions; to that effect, it was suggested that the session be prolonged by at least a week.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(121) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General noted the very strong support which had been given by the Commission to the Executive Board's recommendation, both as regards the date of adoption of the Plan (1989) and the launching of the preparatory work as early as the 1986-1987 biennium. The extremely constructive suggestions which had been made during the debate would naturally be brought to the notice of the Board when, at its 124th session, it undertook the study of the technical problems raised by the preparation of the Plan.

(122) The Commission's debate, he emphasized, had shown the importance that Member States attached to the Plan as a policy document underlying the whole of the Organization's work. The relationship between the Plan and the biennial programmes had indeed clearly been established: the Plan constituted the conceptual framework for the activities proposed in the programme; it defined the general lines of emphasis down to the level of subprogrammes; the details of the concrete activities actually carried out by the Organization, on the other hand, were presented in the programme and budget. Notice had, however, to be taken of the concern shown by the members of the Commission that the Plan should be made more flexible, so that new ideas and needs could be incorporated into it on a continuous basis. That was a matter which deserved thought. The role that Major Programme I could play in that respect had been amply brought out in the Commission's discussions. The same was true of the evaluation system.

(123) The representative of the Director-General recalled in that connection that the evaluation system had been considerably strengthened during the 1984-1985 biennium. A great effort had been made and would continue to be made to improve the quality of the C/11 document. The integration of the evaluation process into the preparation and subsequently into the execution of the Plan nevertheless raised certain problems which needed to be studied: they included problems of timetabling, since the scheduling of the evaluation documents needed to be adjusted to fit in with the planning process.

(124) As regards the lines of emphasis and scope of the third Medium-Term Plan, the wish had been very widely expressed that Unesco should continue to fulfil all the functions assigned to it by its Constitution. Consultations on that question, the representative of the Director-General pointed out, should also be as numerous and diversified as possible, as had been suggested by many members of the Commission. For his part, he took note of the idea which had been advanced for 'double-decker' consultations, covering on the one hand the technical aspects of the preparation of the Plan and on the other its basic lines of emphasis.

(125) It was, in conclusion, clear that the members of the Commission did not wish to take any hasty decisions on those matters as a whole. The exchange of views which had taken place would nevertheless be very useful in providing the Executive Board with food for thought in 1986-1987.

Recommendation on item 3.13

(126) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend that the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed by the Director-General in document 23 C/4 Add. (23 C/Resolution 48).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 13 - MAJOR PROGRAMME VIII:
PRINCIPLES, METHODS AND STRATEGIES OF ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT,
AND OF ITEM 4.6 - NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER: COLLABORATION
WITH THE UNITED NATIONS TO ENSURE THAT SECTORS WITHIN UNESCO'S FIELDS
OF COMPETENCE ARE DULY TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION
ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

A - PROGRAMME VIII.1: STUDY AND PLANNING OF DEVELOPMENT

(127) Commission I devoted its seventh, eighth and ninth meetings to the debate on unit 13, relating to Major Programme VIII, 'Principles, methods and strategies of action for development', and item 4.6, 'New international economic order: Collaboration with the United Nations to ensure that sectors within Unesco's fields of competence are duly taken into consideration by the Commission on Transnational Corporations' (document 23 C/19).

(128) The introduction by the representative of the Director-General, discussion by the Commission and

consideration of draft resolutions were carried out in two separate parts: the first covered both Programme VIII.1, 'Study and planning of development', and item 4.6; the second covered Programmes VIII.2, 'Co-operation with Member States with a view to identifying priority projects for development', and VIII.3, 'Implementation of action for development'.

(129) The Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, in his introductory statement, indicated the important changes made in the presentation of Major Programme VIII, changes made in response to consultations with

Member States and in conformity with the wishes of the 120th session of the Executive Board. These changes had resulted in a restructuring of the Secretariat and the transfer of programmes so that almost the entire programme of activities in Major Programme VIII in the Draft 23 C/5 came within the competence of the new Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development.

(130) In his presentation of Programme VIII.1, 'Study and planning of development', the Assistant Director-General concentrated his remarks on three important aspects of the Draft 23 C/5: the regrouping or transfer of subprogrammes; the ranking of activities into first or second priority actions; and the specific orientations of the three subprogrammes of Programme VIII.1.

(131) The most striking innovation, the Assistant Director-General indicated, was the regrouping of actions and their integration into three new subprogrammes, replacing the four which previously made up Programme VIII.1 in document 22 C/5. The first, VIII.1.1, 'Development processes and their socio-cultural dimensions', dealt with cultural aspects of development processes and was closely co-ordinated with Major Programme XI, 'Culture and the future', in particular, Subprogramme XI.4.1, 'The cultural dimension of development'. This orientation had been made to ensure real complementarity with actions of other United Nations bodies such as ECOSOC, UNU and FAO. He underlined the specific competence of Unesco in reflection on the ultimate aims of development as well as in the application of the social sciences to identify those non-economic factors which aided or impeded development. For reasons of coherence, the action concerning economic theories and the functioning of the world economy, which was formerly in Subprogramme VIII.1.1 of document 22 C/5, 'Development and international relations', had been transferred to Subprogramme VI.4.1, which was devoted to disciplinary development of the social and human sciences. Another action of the former Subprogramme VIII.1.1, concerned with co-operation between developing countries, had been reinforced and constituted a new subprogramme, VIII.1.3, in Draft 23 C/5.

(132) The new Subprogramme VIII.1.2, 'Development planning and evaluation', he pointed out, was the entire former Subprogramme VIII.1.4 of document 22 C/5, with the same title and with the addition of part of the actions which were formerly in Subprogramme VIII.1.2 of document 22 C/5, 'Development, population, environment and technological progress'. In this way, he stated, all the elements within a global perspective of development were integrated. Thus, Subprogramme VIII.1.2 in document 23 C/5 reflected the particular importance given by the Executive Board during its 120th session to activities aimed at strengthening national capacity in development planning and evaluation.

(133) The representative of the

Director-General noted that the creation of a new Subprogramme VIII.1.3, 'Development of technical co-operation among developing countries in Unesco's fields of competence', was the direct result of decisions taken at the 120th session of the Executive Board which recommended that high priority be given to actions which strengthened co-operation between developing countries.

(134) The Assistant Director-General noted that priority rankings had been made in compliance with decisions and recommendations concerning both the themes to be favoured and the modalities of action to be followed. Thus, high priority had been clearly indicated by the 120th session of the Executive Board for the cultural dimension of development, development planning and evaluation, the incorporation of issues concerning women in the planning process, the association of youth in the development of their societies, and co-operation between developing countries, which was reflected in the creation of the new Subprogramme VIII.1.3. As to modalities of action, priority had been accorded to training, decentralization and serving Member States directly.

(135) The Assistant Director-General underlined the overriding aim of achieving a balance between activities concerned with studies and those concerned with concrete action. This concern had led to the different orientation of the three subprogrammes in order to achieve this balance. Thus, Subprogramme VIII.1.1 consisted essentially of studies conceived in view of action to be carried out under Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3. Subprogramme VIII.1.2 was oriented towards the organization of and preparation for action, particularly through training national personnel in using planning and evaluation methods. Finally, Subprogramme VIII.1.3, he noted, was even more closely oriented towards action in Member States since its aim was to aid developing countries to benefit from their national development experience through supporting technical co-operation.

(136) Lastly, the Assistant Director-General introduced document 23 C/19 relating to item 4.6, 'New international economic order: Collaboration with the United Nations to ensure that sectors within Unesco's fields of competence are duly taken into consideration by the Commission on Transnational Corporations'. He gave a brief account of Unesco's role in this area and of the documents and recommendations of previous Unesco General Conferences which had guided its work. In substance, he stated, the theme which concerned Unesco was the examination of the effects of activities of transnational corporations within the concept of national endogenous development. He mentioned in more detail the activities carried out during the 1984-1985 biennium, in particular a number of studies carried out in collaboration with research institutions and experts in this area.

(137) He then described the main lines of co-operation that existed between Unesco and the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, which was designed to ensure continuing consultations and co-operation in the areas of research, training and documentation, so as to avoid duplication and ensure the necessary complementarity.

(138) Finally, the representative of the Director-General noted the operational activities carried out under Programme VIII.1. In the area of development planning, two projects in Africa and one in the Arab States, financed by UNDP, were designed to strengthen national capacity in integrated development planning. In the area of population, 31 projects, financed by UNFPA, were being implemented - 19 in Africa, three in Latin America and the Caribbean, three in Asia and the Pacific, five in the Arab States and one interregional project - with the aim of helping Member States develop population policies and programmes.

Debate

(139) The representatives of 41 Member States and the representative of one international intergovernmental organization spoke during the ensuing debate. Most of the speakers expressed their support for Programme VIII.1 and their agreement with the lines of emphasis and proposals for activities presented under this programme.

(140) All the speakers commended the new presentation of Programme VIII.1, the amalgamation of subprogrammes and the transfers of activities proposed with a view to strengthening concentration.

(141) With the exception of two speakers, who wanted the programme to concentrate to a greater extent on concrete activities, and another who stressed the importance of theoretical analyses to throw light on action, all expressed their satisfaction with the balance achieved in the programme between reflection and action and with the interdisciplinary approach and intersectoral co-operation provided for in the methods of implementation of the programme by the new Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development.

(142) Some speakers stressed the need to co-ordinate the activities in Major Programme VIII with those in Major Programmes I, XI, XII, XIII and in Programme VI.4.

(143) One speaker emphasized the complex nature of development problems and the difficulty of co-ordinating related activities.

(144) Many speakers drew attention to the need for co-operation with the other agencies in the United Nations system in order to avoid duplication and remain within the Organization's fields of competence.

(145) Practically all speakers stressed the need for greater concentration of reflection on the cultural dimension of development and asked the

Organization to continue its activities directed towards the working out of the concept of integrated development, particularly, in the view of one speaker, in the context of the forthcoming World Decade for Cultural Development.

(146) This speaker added that a social, human and cultural approach - and not merely an economic one - should be employed in studying social exclusion and poverty.

(147) Another speaker criticized the overemphasis placed on the economic aspect and recommended the carrying out of a systems study of development variables on the basis of a multidimensional and transdisciplinary approach with a view to identifying the strategic variables which furthered development, referring them in all cases to the specific socio-cultural features in question (concerning technologies, modes of social communication, institutions, norms of conduct and values).

(148) Some delegates mentioned the difficulties of certain countries in obtaining access to the technologies which they required for development and stated that development was a 'culturally integrated' whole of which scientific and technological information, communication and the relationship between man and the environment were all indispensable parts.

(149) In line with that view, the analysis of international dimensions was also considered as an indispensable and complementary aspect of the study of the internal factors of development. Several delegates mentioned the links between national development, decolonization and the new international economic order. In this connection, one delegate emphasized that account should be taken of the particular case of countries which had experienced a long period of struggle for national independence.

(150) The comments on programme activities generally followed the order of the subprogrammes. Subprogramme VIII.1.1 was commented on by 32 speakers, most of whom took a favourable view of it.

(151) One speaker considered that the historical and future-oriented studies under action 1 (b) of Subprogramme VIII.1.1 (para. 08106) were not clearly specified, and felt that the staff costs relating to Subprogramme VIII.1.1 were too high. He proposed that the execution of the programme should be entrusted to national bodies or non-governmental organizations rather than to the Regional Offices.

(152) With regard to the studies to be undertaken, several speakers recommended multidisciplinary national case-studies and comparative studies to determine common problems, and also, to a lesser extent, regional and interregional studies, expressing the hope that Unesco would associate itself to a greater extent with the efforts of the United Nations system to co-ordinate its development action beyond the structures set up to deal with the critical situation in Africa.

(153) Some speakers recommended

co-operation with the United Nations University for the study of the conceptual and theoretical aspects of development.

(154) Another speaker, while praising the more rational presentation of the subprogrammes, as compared with the past presentation, remarked that some actions might better be carried out by other agencies.

(155) Some themes within the subprogrammes clearly called for special attention. Within the first subprogramme, a large number of speakers singled out the problem of the external debt and the international dimension of development for special attention.

(156) The negative consequences of the external debt were referred to by several speakers, who uniformly drew attention to the gravity of the issue and its influence in many sectors of national life relating to Unesco's fields of competence. The proposed case-studies on debt problems and their effects in Unesco's fields of competence were widely supported and, indeed, considered as being only the beginning of the needed exploration of a very major problem.

(157) Several speakers addressed the theme of the international dimensions of development. Two of them emphasized the need to maintain a proper relationship between the analysis of internal development factors and the analysis of the international dimensions of development, and welcomed the equilibrium shown in the programme. Another called for fundamental study of both the negative and the positive influences of international relations for development. Within this area of discussion, four main subjects captured the attention of a significant number of delegates: the new international economic order; peace, disarmament and development; transnational corporations; and internal and international migration and the brain drain.

(158) Some speakers, referring specifically to the new international economic order, deplored the relative lack of attention given to the strategy for achieving it, noting that the term 'new international economic order' was not even mentioned in the programme. Some of the speakers called for an updating of the studies carried out in previous biennia.

(159) Several speakers considered that the arms race was a serious hindrance to the development of the developing countries and suggested that studies on peace, disarmament and development be given due attention.

(160) Several speakers referred to the detrimental effects of the activities of transnational corporations in the developing host countries, especially their effects on culture, traditions and education systems. One delegate was concerned about the activities of those corporations in South Africa. Several delegates wished to see work on the preparation of a code of conduct for transnational corporations continued and completed within the framework of the United Nations, and requested Unesco to

associate itself actively with that work. Others cautioned that overlapping with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations should be rigorously avoided, suggesting that the entire programme should be left to the United Nations Centre.

(161) Some speakers underlined the importance of the studies of internal and international migration and their consequences for the brain drain in developing countries, and requested that more attention be given to it by Unesco.

(162) Some speakers emphasized the importance of food self-sufficiency, and one speaker referred to the 121st session of the Executive Board, at which the Director-General had been requested to support Africa's efforts in that field. One speaker suggested that the concept of security of food supply, mentioned in Subprogramme VIII.1.2 (para. 08119 (c) and (d)) should be focused on household food security, rather than on international food security.

(163) Many speakers commented on Subprogramme VIII.1.2, 'Development planning and evaluation', which elicited nearly unanimous approval and support.

(164) One delegate, while warmly approving the subprogramme as a whole, questioned the number and content of a series of studies provided for in one action. Several speakers especially appreciated the practical orientation of the actions which, it was suggested, would be of practical help to developing countries. Some speakers were especially appreciative of the action-oriented nature of this subprogramme. One speaker made reference to a UNDP-financed project on socio-economic indicators for development planning which was being executed within the context of that subprogramme.

(165) The training aspects of development planning and evaluation were singled out for approval by almost all speakers and the priority accorded to those activities was appreciated. One speaker suggested that such programmes should be concentrated upon training trainers. Several speakers also noted positively the attention given to including women's concern in development planning, which represented a practical effort to further the participation of women in the development process. The activities concerning evaluation techniques, and especially the training of national officials in their elaboration and use, were also cited positively, although one speaker cautioned that methodological action should be carried out only in co-operation with other programme units.

(166) Many speakers addressed Subprogramme VIII.1.3, 'Development of technical co-operation among developing countries in Unesco's fields of competence', and, again, there was near unanimity in approval of almost all the programmes. The delegates dwelt on Unesco's role as a catalyst in intellectual and technical rather than economic co-operation among developing countries. Two speakers expressed their satisfaction

but asked for better integration of some parts (para. 08127) by regrouping financial resources around a few themes so as to avoid the danger of their being spread too thinly and thus proving ineffective. Two speakers proposed that the concept of international co-operation be expanded to take in North-South co-operation, so as to optimize complementary resources and capacities and to take account of problems that were common to developed and developing countries.

(167) Several participants welcomed the decentralization of activities and some proposed that specialists from developing countries should co-operate in activities under Programme VIII.1, especially in the regional studies on the identification of needs in respect of technical co-operation among developing countries.

(168) Some speakers stressed the need to strengthen research associations and networks concerned with the socio-cultural factors of food security and to co-operate with non-governmental organizations. One speaker also proposed co-operation with other private-sector bodies. Two speakers considered that the results of the studies under Programme VIII.1 should contribute to Sub-programme VIII.3.4 for the planning and implementation of pilot projects.

(169) Some delegates commented on youth activities. Two speakers voiced caution and counselled prudence for those actions related to studies and projects giving effect to certain recommendations of the World Congress on Youth and the United Nations General Assembly following International Youth Year. They stressed that Unesco's fields of competence should be rigidly adhered to in the actions contemplated. The majority of speakers underlined the problems facing youth in the present-day world. Some speakers encouraged Unesco to promote research on the situation of young people, primarily on youth unemployment, delinquency and drug abuse, and to share the results of such research widely with a view to finding appropriate solutions that would fit in with or form part of development action.

(170) Finally, in relation to the entire Programme VIII.1, several delegates offered collaboration of a direct and concrete nature in relation to specific proposed programme actions. Some offered to host a particular meeting or seminar; others offered to associate national institutes or specialists with some activities. One speaker noted the large capacity in training institutions in his country, offering to make these available as part of technical co-operation.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(171) In replying to the comments and questions raised during the debate, the Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, on behalf of the Director-General, expressed his appreci-

ation of the large number of speakers, the excellence of their statements, the interest in the programme that their statements revealed and their knowledge of its content. The debate represented a collective reflection which had benefited all who had had the privilege of participating in it. He thanked the many speakers who had offered to collaborate in making the draft programme a reality and noted that this gesture of confidence was a great encouragement to the Secretariat, which had taken careful note and would make ample use of those kind offers in the execution of the programme. Before dealing with specific questions, he referred to those of a general order in relation to Unesco's activities in the study and planning of development.

(172) The recognition of the importance of Unesco's role in reflection about development, expressed by numerous delegates, was highly appreciated, and he was pleased to note that it was precisely within Major Programme VIII that the balance between reflection and action was most evident. He also acknowledged the contribution that the World Decade for Cultural Development would make to the programme on the study and planning of development, as had been noted by many speakers.

(173) He indicated, in response to speakers who had underlined the complexity of the subjects covered, that the effort to deal with complex and inter-related factors in that area was what had motivated the bringing together of both the social science and the operational roles of Unesco to constitute the new Bureau of Studies of Action and Co-ordination for Development. The concern was not only for internal rationality but also, and more especially, to see that the Secretariat was equipped to co-ordinate the development activities of all sectors; and that accounted in large part for the Bureau's position in the structure itself and its role as the focal point for all development activities.

(174) In response to the many speakers who had noted the importance of the cultural dimension in elaborating the concept of integrated development and the crucial role of an interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach in Major Programme VIII, he assured the Commission that no effort would be spared in continuing and amplifying that approach.

(175) The representative of the Director-General expressed his appreciation for the many statements recognizing and approving the progress made in the presentation of the programme and the concentration it represented. He also noted, in response to several interventions, that practical collaboration with non-governmental organizations, as well as working more and more through Regional Offices in order to associate scientific communities with the work done, was an increasingly frequent modality of action. He also stressed, in answer to comments cautioning against Unesco overlapping with other agencies of

the United Nations system, that that was a matter of constant concern both in day-to-day activity and in programme planning and execution in general.

(176) He then replied to a number of specific questions grouped around four themes: (a) the international dimensions of development; (b) planning, evaluation and management of resources for development; (c) international co-operation for development; and (d) youth in development.

(177) The Assistant Director-General first dealt with the question, raised by several speakers, of why there were no explicit activities in document 23 C/5 concerning the new international economic order. He noted that the Director-General had already informed the Executive Board of the care taken in drafting document 23 C/5 to label activities in a very precise and concise manner. At the same time, he pointed out, the conditions relating to the establishment of a new international economic order would be dealt with in the studies proposed on the problems of the external debt and development within Unesco's fields of competence, as well as in the activities proposed in Programme VI.4 concerning economic theories and the functioning of the world economy.

(178) He then turned to transnational corporations, reiterating, in response to several interventions made during the debate, that Unesco's actions were most surely conceived and would be carried out within the Organization's fields of competence and within the framework of strict co-operation with the United Nations Centre. Those actions, in effect, consisted essentially in the collection and comparative analysis of data and research results. In answer to a question put by several speakers, the Assistant Director-General explained that a code of conduct for transnational corporations was within the exclusive competence of the Commission on Transnational Corporations, where Unesco sat as an observer. The question of a code in Unesco's fields of competence was not covered during the two special sessions of the Commission during the 1984-1985 period. Paragraph 23 of document 23 C/19, he pointed out, referred to the issues still outstanding pending negotiations within the Commission.

(179) In response to the numerous interventions concerning the problems caused by external debt, the Assistant Director-General pointed out that the regional and comparative studies to be carried out within Unesco's fields of competence should facilitate a diversified analysis of the problems posed and perhaps outline alternatives which could aid Member States to alleviate, at least partially, the negative effects.

(180) Finally, noting the numerous comments on the relations between peace and development, which had been the subject of close co-operation between the International Social Science Council and Unesco, he made reference to Programme VI.4, in which provision was made

for Unesco to support a number of interdisciplinary research groups constituted by the ISSC, of which an important one was working precisely on the theme of 'relations between peace and development'.

(181) In acknowledging the numerous statements - all of them favourable - made about that area of activity, the Assistant Director-General noted the particular interest taken in training in integrated planning methods and evaluation and in management of resources, rural development and food self-sufficiency. He noted the special importance attributed by many speakers to the action concerning the integration of women's concerns in the development process.

(182) The Assistant Director-General noted the unanimous approval given to international co-operation, which was accorded high priority. He emphasized, in reply to specific observations, that the programme would concern North/South as well as South/South co-operation. Both regional and international dimensions would be covered. That would ensure that expertise to further technical co-operation in Unesco's areas of competence would not be limited.

(183) In response to those speakers who had not only underlined the importance of youth activities but had urged that co-ordination be ensured between the different parts of the programme, the Assistant Director-General gave assurances that co-ordination would be effected not only within the programme but also with the other major programmes. He noted that activities concerning youth were the subject of debate in the plenary as well as under item 4.8 in Commission V, and would no doubt take into account not only youth problems but also the participation of youth in development.

(184) He then turned to the many subjects of study which had been suggested. Some, such as the causes and consequences of unemployment and contemporary youth aspirations, were already covered in the proposed programme while others, like juvenile delinquency and drug abuse, could be included within the co-operation agreements that Unesco would be making with research centres in different regions. Unesco's role, he reiterated, would, of course, remain that of a catalyst, a co-ordinator of research and a channel for information.

(185) The representative of the Director-General thanked all the delegates for their suggestions and offers of co-operation, regretting that each and every one could not be covered in the time allotted for his response; but he gave assurances that the records of the debate would be studied in detail and full use made of them in the implementation of the programme and budget.

Recommendations concerning Programme VIII.1

(186) At its eighth meeting the Commission examined: draft resolution

23 C/DR.70 (India), concerning Programme VIII.1. The author of this resolution accepted the proposals made in the note by the Director-General modifying paragraph (2) of DR.70. The Commission having taken note of the relevant information contained in DR.70, the author accepted that it be transferred to Commission II for consideration.

(187) After consideration of draft resolution 23 C/DR.126 (Afghanistan, German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia), the authors, taking into account the explanations given by the representative of the Director-General, which were considered satisfactory, agreed to withdraw the draft resolution and wished the following paragraphs of DR.126 to be recorded in the report:

'by continuing projects relating to the impact of transnational corporations' activities on Unesco's fields of competence and co-operation with the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations';

'by compiling data supplied by Member States on the negative consequences of the brain-drain in the fields of Unesco's competence'.

(188) The Chairman told the Commission, which was in agreement, that DR.143 (United Kingdom) would be considered by the Chairmen of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(189) The Commission considered DR.133 (France). Supporting this draft resolution, the representatives of the Member States took into consideration the note by the Director-General. The Commission adopted this draft resolution, amending resolution 8.1, proposed in paragraph 08002 of document 23 C/5, which thus read as follows:

New paragraph 8:

'Taking into consideration all the relevant recommendations made by the Executive Board in 121 EX/Decision 4.1, and particularly paragraphs 103 to 112 relating to Major Programme VIII'.

The following subparagraph (new subparagraph 9 is amended as follows:

'Authorizes the Director-General to continue on this basis the implementation ...' (rest unchanged).

(190) The delegation of one country (Cuba) introduced orally an amendment to subparagraph 9(a)(i) of proposed resolution 8.1, adding the words 'such as external debt'. The Commission accepted this amendment, which modified subparagraph 9(a)(i) as follows: '... awareness of the national factors and the international factors such as external debt which may ...'.

(191) The delegation of one Member State (United Kingdom) expressed a reservation in regard to the adoption of proposed resolution 8.1 as thus amended, having regard to the possible repercussions on that resolution of the consideration and decision relating to 23 C/DR.143, submitted by his country. At its seventeenth meeting, the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt resolution 8.1 (para. 08002 of document 23 C/5) from paragraph 1 to paragraph 10(a) as amended (23 C/Resolution 8.1).

(192) The Commission considered the proposals of the Chairman at its nineteenth meeting concerning the reduction in the budget provision for paragraph 08108. Following the debate, the Commission made the following changes in the budget provision in paragraph 08108 of the work plan in the draft 23 C/5 document: reduction of \$30,000 including \$10,000 from 3(a) and \$20,000 from 3(b).

(193) The Commission examined draft resolution 23 C/DR.19 (Nigeria). After consultations between the Bureau of Commission I, the representative of the Director-General and the author of DR.19, the Commission made the following amendments to paragraph 08109 of the work plan in document 23 C/5:

(i) delete subparagraph (b) of paragraph 08109;

(ii) amend the text of subparagraph (c) to read:

'two multidisciplinary studies (psychology, sociology, economics) with a view to clarifying the difficulties encountered in translating the theoretical patterns of endogenous development into specific actions. The results of these studies and of those undertaken in 1984-1985 (cf. 22 C/5 Approved, para. 08119) will serve as the basis for an interregional symposium (category VIII) to analyse discrepancies between the theoretical patterns and practical experience of development and to formulate methodological recommendations to improve the relevance and quality of the Organization's operational activities'.

This subparagraph would be financed by the sums proposed in subparagraph (c) (\$50,000) as first priority activities, plus \$20,000 from the reserve assigned to Commission I.

(194) The Commission also decided to take note of the report 'New international economic order: Collaboration with the United Nations to ensure that sectors within Unesco's fields of competence are duly taken into consideration by the Commission on Transnational Corporations' (document 23 C/19).

(195) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan for Programme VIII.1 in paragraphs 08102 to 08109 amended, 08112 to 08119, 08122 to 08127 and 08131 to 08142 of the 23 C/5. The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference approve for Programme VIII.1 the budget provision of \$3,920,300 in paragraph 08101 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$1,425,600 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustment which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

B. PROGRAMMES VIII.2 AND VIII.3: CO-OPERATION WITH MEMBER STATES
WITH A VIEW TO IDENTIFYING PRIORITY PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT

IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTION FOR DEVELOPMENT

(196) The Commission devoted its eighth, ninth and part of its seventeenth meetings to consideration of the part of unit 13 relating to Programmes VIII.2, 'Co-operation with Member States with a view to identifying priority projects for development', and VIII.3, 'Implementation of action for development' (paras. 08201-08403 of document 23 C/5) and the draft resolutions submitted by Member States.

(197) In presenting Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3, the acting Assistant Director-General of the Sector for Co-operation for Development and External Relations stressed that the preamble to the draft resolution proposed in paragraph 08002 of document 23 C/5 concerned the whole of Major Programme VIII, but that subparagraphs (b) and (c) referred more specifically to Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3.

(198) He said that, in accordance with the second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989), Major Programme VIII formed an entity within which the activities of study and reflection covered by Programme VIII.1 should make an effective contribution to clarifying and guiding the operational activities which formed the substance of Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3. The Director-General had given practical expression to the integration of all the parts of Major Programme VIII, the implementation of which had hitherto been shared between two sectors, by specifying, within the context of the restructuring of the Secretariat, the functions which were to be fulfilled by the Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development, which would henceforth be responsible for the implementation of virtually all that major programme.

(199) The acting Assistant Director-General then enumerated the Divisions of which that Bureau was composed. They were four in number: the Division of Study and Planning of Development would be responsible for Programme VIII.1 and Subprogramme VIII.2.1, 'Country profiles and studies', hitherto implemented by the CPX Reports and Documentation Division, which would be integrated with it and at the same time pursue its other functions. The Division for Co-ordination of Operational Action and Mobilization of Extra-Budgetary Resources would implement Subprogrammes VIII.2.2, VIII.3.1 and VIII.3.4. The Division for Training, Development of Human Resources and Fellowships would be responsible for the implementation of Subprogramme VIII.3.2. Lastly, the Equipment and Subcontracting Division would implement the new Subprogramme VIII.3.3. These four Divisions, forming a single Bureau, would ensure that Major Programme VIII formed a consistent whole within which reflection and action would be mutually profitable.

(200) The acting Assistant Director-

General also drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that the activities included in Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3, though presented in a new way, constituted to a large extent the continuation of functions long performed by Unesco to promote the development of its Member States. He also stressed that Major Programme VIII was, by its very nature, intersectoral and interdisciplinary in character. The Bureau of Development should therefore act in the closest harmony with all the programme sectors. It should carry out its task of intersectoral co-ordination bearing in mind that the programme sectors had the technical competence that guaranteed the quality of the projects to be implemented and that they would also continue to be responsible for the implementation of the operational activities.

(201) With regard to Subprogramme VIII.2.1, 'Country profiles and studies', the acting Assistant Director-General reiterated that its necessity, which was sometimes misunderstood, derived from the fact that there could be no pertinent operational action without a thorough and accurate knowledge of the situation and problems of Member States. It had sometimes been asked whether, to acquire this, Unesco was obliged to collect its own information, and on that subject, mention had been made of overlapping with the similar country profiles and studies produced by other bodies inside or outside the United Nations system. In point of fact, as stated in document 23 C/5, the Secretariat would make maximum use of those existing studies but only to the rather limited extent that the material available elsewhere dealt with Unesco's fields of competence. At the same time, it was important to realize that the country profiles would be drawn up by making use, under contract if necessary, of national institutions such as National Commissions, universities and so forth. Only budgetary restrictions had prevented the Organization from fully committing itself to this path. So far, during the present biennium, it had not in fact been possible to move beyond the phase of methodological preparation to that of the finalization of the country profiles, as would be done in 1986-1987. However, the Secretariat now had a standard model for the profiles, which had been prepared methodically and with a view to continuous updating, a task that would be facilitated by the use of appropriate word-processing equipment.

(202) With regard to Subprogramme VIII.2.2, the acting Assistant Director-General emphasized the necessity of constant support for Member States, particularly the least developed, *inter alia* to help them prepare the round tables of donors, a formula which UNDP intended to revive. It was up to Unesco to ensure

that such round tables produced results and that they gave due consideration to the Organization's fields of competence. The advisability of intersectoral missions for that purpose would become increasingly evident.

(203) There was no need to recall the functions covered by Subprogramme VIII.3.1, 'Mobilization of financial resources'. Generally speaking, Unesco had succeeded during the present biennium in maintaining the interest of multilateral and bilateral funding sources in those needs of Member States that fell within its purview and even in broadening the scope of their activities in spite of a difficult world economic situation. In particular, the figure for obligations made possible in 1984-1985 under funds-in-trust lay between \$20 and \$25 million. The acting Assistant Director-General expressed the wish that other countries would be as generous as the few Member States contributing to that programme.

(204) There was good co-operation with UNDP. Among encouraging trends in that respect, mention should be made of a probable increase in the Programme's resources, its greater concern for true programming, and more systematic recourse by it to sectoral analyses.

(205) The representative of the Director-General stressed the fact that, in the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources, the establishment of the Bureau of Development would provide the opportunity for a fresh start, for even more intense and methodical efforts, and for the simplification of certain procedures in the relations maintained with funding sources.

(206) In implementing Subprogramme VIII.3.2, 'Mobilization of human resources, to which the Executive Board had given high priority at its last session, special emphasis would be laid on training activities. There would be a section within the relevant division which would be responsible for giving technical advice to Member States, especially the least developed countries, at their request, on the formulation and development of their training policies. Regional and subregional local training programmes would be further decentralized through the intermediary of the Regional Offices. Developing countries' training facilities would be used more and more frequently for the placement of fellowship holders, but that would not, of course, affect the policy of placing students in industrialized countries for courses in highly specialized fields of study.

(207) The training possibilities will be expanded, depending upon the availability of funds. By virtue of a programme of co-operation already begun with Member States - chiefly for sponsored fellowships - and with national and regional institutions, non-governmental organizations and private foundations, the Organization would be able to expand its fellowship programmes, using new and flexible cost-sharing approaches.

(208) The acting Assistant Director-General noted that it was with some

regret that the Secretariat, fully aware of Member States' needs in that regard, had had to downgrade to second priority a large portion of the appropriations for training, after having tried to assign first priority to as many as possible.

(209) Also in Subprogramme VIII.3.2, the activities proposed in paragraphs 08320 and 08321 were firmly directed towards the implementation of operational programmes and the acquisition of additional extra-budgetary funds for national youth programmes. To that end, the Organization would provide advisory services for the Member States concerned to assist them in drawing up youth policies and programmes aimed at involving young people in development.

(210) The representative of the Director-General said that the introduction into Major Programme VIII of the new Subprogramme VIII.3.3 concerning equipment, that is to say concerning activities that were in Part II.B of document 22 C/5, had both provided a better overall view of the Organization's operational action and made the machinery of the future Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development fully consistent. The subprogramme dealt with current activities that the Secretariat intended to reorientate so as to provide a better service for developing Member States, for instance by advising them on the spot about the equipment best suited to their needs and by helping them to make provision for possible maintenance problems. A booklet describing the services in respect of equipment that Unesco could provide was available for consultation by Member States.

(211) During the current biennium, the overall volume of activities involved in the supply of equipment and advice to Member States had exceeded \$40 million and called for over 50 missions to the countries concerned. In the next biennium, the Secretariat intended to expand considerably the Organization's ability to fulfil Member States' requests both for the purchase of equipment and for counselling, within the framework of projects financed from extra-budgetary funds.

(212) The launching of Subprogramme VIII.3.4 on pilot projects had been held up both by budgetary restrictions, since the approved appropriation had had to be reduced during the biennium, and by the need for a preparatory phase concerning methods, administration and the selection of the proposed projects. However, the Director-General had been able to approve two projects that could be launched in 1985. One concerned the integrated regional development of Mayombe in the Congo. It was a complex research, training and demonstration project aimed at exploiting the natural resources of the region concerned. The second project, submitted by the French National Commission for Unesco, concerned the intercultural communication problems encountered by the nationals of developing countries working in highly industrialized countries. To implement that

project, which was also complex and multifaceted, the French National Commission had secured the co-operation of National Commissions and other bodies in 14 countries, nine of them European and five African. Both projects would be evaluated in due course. Although the limited budget allocated to the subprogramme made it necessary to apply strict selection criteria, it would be possible to launch two further pilot projects in 1986-1987 in accordance with the criteria and contractual procedures described in paragraph 08333 of document 23 C/5.

Debate

(213) During the debate, delegates of 21 Member States took the floor. Several speakers welcomed the establishment of the Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development, one emphasizing that it would have a fundamental role to play and another expressing the hope that the Bureau would, in its operation, adopt the appropriate vigorous style. One delegate nevertheless expressed the fear that the new arrangements might introduce an obstacle to the co-operation of National Commissions and non-governmental organizations in the development activities of the Organization.

(214) Several delegates spoke on substantive questions or specific general aspects of the subprogrammes submitted to them for consideration and, in particular, spoke of the need to take due account of the socio-cultural dimensions of the development process. One delegate expressed the hope, in that respect, that Major Programme VIII as a whole would be implemented in relation with Programme XI.4, 'Cultural development and cultural policies', while another mentioned the desirability of an association with Major Programme I in order to ensure consistency in the Organization's approach. Two delegates stressed the need to ensure genuine cohesion between the three subprogrammes making up Major Programme VIII, which one of them regarded as all-important for ensuring that the development process and its ultimate goal were perceived in all their dimensions and not just in economic terms. That development process, several speakers emphasized, called for the framing of appropriate strategies, at both global and national levels. The existence of Major Programme VIII should help to identify such strategies in order, as one speaker stressed, to support or revive the will to act of decision-makers at the national level.

(215) One speaker supported the notion of endogenous development underlying Major Programme VIII as a whole but said that it should not impede the North-South co-operation needed in order to promote development. Three delegates considered that it should not be forgotten that preoccupations concerning national development were also present, though in different terms, in the industrialized countries, which, as one of those delegates said, were sometimes encountering

severe problems of adaptation to the present day.

(216) Several delegates voiced support for Subprogramme VIII.2.1, 'Country profiles and studies', which they considered would provide a basis of essential information for pertinent operational action. One speaker emphasized the importance that the outcome of activities under that subprogramme could be expected to have as the 'memory of the Secretariat', while another delegate spoke of the prospective usefulness of the subprogramme when it came to making comparative country studies. The Secretariat's intention to use national bodies for data collection was approved by various speakers.

(217) One speaker nevertheless regretted that it had not yet been possible, as document 23 C/11 indicated, to carry out country profiles. Another speaker felt that this activity should rather be considered as a sort of programme support, and not as a programme of its own. Four delegates expressed the fear that the subprogramme might overlap with similar studies conducted by other agencies or institutions. One of them considered that the subprogramme was proving costly, particularly in terms of staff.

(218) With regard to Subprogramme VIII.2.2, one speaker regretted that its implementation had not yet, for the reasons stated in document 23 C/11, got truly under way. One delegate voiced doubts about the advisability of the activities provided for, but another delegate said that owing to the very importance of those activities, precautions needed to be taken in identifying projects since the methodological problems mentioned in that respect in document 23 C/11 seemed to him to be very real.

(219) Subprogramme VIII.3.1, 'Mobilization of financial resources', was supported by the speakers referring to it, one expressing the hope that it would indeed enable the Organization to make increased resources available for its action for development. One of the speakers referred to the obstacles represented in that respect by the hesitations of some funding sources about giving due consideration to the importance of Unesco's fields of competence in the development process. Another drew attention to the danger of 'drift' resulting from the trend on the part of some funding sources, particularly banks, on account of their very nature as financial management bodies, to secure their own technical expertise. What was needed, according to that speaker, was to gain acceptance of the specific role and capacity of Unesco, which alone was in a position, in its development-linked fields of competence, to offer the support of its own resources but also to mobilize a vast network of very varied institutions and non-governmental organizations.

(220) All speakers expressed their support for Subprogramme VIII.3.2,

'Mobilization of human resources', to which they gave very high priority. Some even expressed the view that all the activities listed in paragraph 08317 of document 23 C/5 should enjoy first priority, and that additional funds should be allocated for training activities, even by dint of economies in other parts of the draft programme. One speaker referred to the draft resolution submitted by his country regarding the priority to be accorded to that subprogramme.

(221) Two speakers expressed the wish for greater participation by women in training activities and for the granting of a greater number of fellowships to women and young people, particularly for technical and vocational training. Another speaker said that Unesco generally gave short-term fellowships and in his opinion, the least advanced countries needed longer training instead, at degree and even postgraduate level. One delegate stressed the priority which should be given to training but nevertheless emphasized the need, in that respect, for quality and relevance in the training provided.

(222) Several speakers stressed the need for carrying out an evaluation of fellowships and training programmes in order to improve their effectiveness. Two speakers referred to the limited funds allotted to that activity and to the financing of two evaluation studies mentioned in paragraph 08319(b), which had only been given second priority. Another speaker suggested that countries providing fellowships as well as the beneficiary countries should be associated with the evaluation work. Another speaker emphasized the advisability, in that kind of evaluation, of taking into account the activities provided for in that respect under Programme VIII.1 (para. 08118).

(223) Many speakers were of the opinion that the mobilization of human resources was an essential factor in development. They stressed the importance of increasing placements in developing countries, which was a less costly formula that fostered endogenous development to a greater extent. One speaker suggested, in that connection, that an African data bank on human resources should be set up in order to provide the foundations for exchanges between countries as regards training. Another speaker proposed that centres of excellence should be identified and said that his country was ready to welcome Unesco fellowship holders to training institutions if the Organization gave it its assistance for that purpose.

(224) One speaker said that his country was ready to provide technical assistance in order to promote training activities for young people particularly in the Third World. The same speaker also said that the Latin America and the Caribbean region received only 3.3 per cent of the fellowships granted by Unesco. While he understood the budgetary limits and the pressing needs of other regions, he asked what the criteria were

for distributing fellowships by region.

(225) Several speakers referred to the importance, particularly for the developing countries, of the activities concerning young people mentioned under Subprogramme VIII.3.2. In their opinion, more funds should be devoted to them, seeing the need for associating young people fully with action for development. One speaker urged the advisability of making greater efforts for research on young people, which could be promoted by setting up or strengthening research networks or institutions, particularly at regional level.

(226) One delegate wanted a greater number of operational projects concerning young people to be carried out, with the collaboration of UNDP or other funding sources. Unesco should, of course, cooperate with those Member States which so wished in the preparation and execution of such projects.

(227) Of the delegates who spoke about Subprogramme VIII.3.3, concerning the acquisition and use of equipment for operational projects, only one questioned its validity. The others were of the opinion that this subprogramme certainly included an action which was necessary for the projects, but they were nevertheless of the opinion that its presentation and wording in Volume II of document 23 C/5 were imprecise, and that prevented them from having a clear view of its details. One speaker stressed the advisability of assisting Member States to train national specialists in this field.

(228) Several speakers supported Subprogramme VIII.3.4, 'Implementation of pilot projects', although one of them expressed doubts about the advisability of the approved pilot project concerning intercultural communication between immigrant workers in Europe and in host communities. They all voiced their agreement with the advisability, pointed out by the Secretariat, of making the necessary effort to state clearly the methods to be followed and to define accurately the criteria for selecting pilot projects. That was customary for all activities having many parts, and was true of pilot projects which were, essentially, interdisciplinary and embraced many forms. Two speakers regretted the reduction in the funds allotted to that subprogramme, one of them even considering it desirable to restore to first priority the sum appearing in paragraph 08333(b) of document 23 C/5.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(229) The acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations noted that the debate had revealed that members of the Commission were generally agreed upon the whole of Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3 and he then went on to provide the further explanations called for in certain statements.

(230) With regard to Subprogramme VIII.2.1, 'Country profiles and studies',

three different kinds of questions seemed to have been raised, relating respectively to what had been termed the 'duplication' problem, the cost of the subprogramme in staff terms and its very desirability. As far as duplication was concerned, he drew attention to paragraph B204 of Volume I of document 23 C/5, which stated that 'in executing this subprogramme, every effort will be made to avoid duplication of the content of data banks existing elsewhere' and that 'constant collaboration will be maintained with those sources of information' - a remark that was reiterated in paragraph 08205 of document 23 C/5, Volume II. Furthermore, he recalled that in his introductory statement he had drawn attention to the Secretariat's intention to implement that subprogramme not only with the international institutions concerned - even if few of them were in possession of data on culture, information, the social sciences and education - but also with national institutions, National Commissions and universities. There was therefore no reason to be apprehensive about possible duplication.

(231) On the subject of the cost of country profiles in staff terms, it should be realized that the presentation by programme sometimes resulted in insufficient account being taken of the duties actually carried out by staff members. In point of fact, all work relating to profiles would be performed by the staff of the former Reports and Documentation Division, which took on that task over and above their usual heavy responsibilities. On average, those staff members handled 750 mission reports per year, of which 250 had to be finalized for presentation to the governments concerned, while as regards documentation, they stored and indexed close on a million documents concerning the United Nations system, UNDP and the non-governmental organizations. Hence the staff referred to in paragraph 08207, which seemed to be concerned solely with country profiles, would be required in any event, whether or not there was a Subprogramme VIII.2.1; that subprogramme was, in fact, an additional burden on the same staff.

(232) On the question of the desirability of country profiles, the Secretariat had of course always wanted to be informed of actual conditions in Member States, but the profiles were desirable because of the need to rationalize, systematize and update, for the purposes of current operational activities, the Secretariat's knowledge of Member States. In other words they were desirable because of the need to modernize the process in order to make it more effective.

(233) Admittedly, as the Secretariat had pointed out in document 23 C/11 for instance, it had not been possible to proceed as rapidly as had been wished. In the framework of a preliminary methodological study, an initial model plan for those profiles had been prepared and

tested before arriving at the 'format' that would be used from now on and was available to delegations.

(234) The intersectoral missions provided for under Subprogramme VIII.2.2 also required prior work on methods in order to clarify in what respects they would be different from other comparable activities. In addition, they had not been explicitly requested by any country during the current biennium since the Secretariat, for its part, had not been in a position because of budgetary restrictions to elicit such requests. Things would be different in 1986-1987 since care would have to be taken, by means of such missions, to ensure that the round tables of donors, particularly in Africa, were duly equipped to understand the needs of Member States in Unesco's fields of competence. Several missions of that kind would certainly be organized during the forthcoming biennium.

(235) Where Subprogramme VIII.3.1, 'Mobilization of financial resources', was concerned, the representative of the Director-General said that the Secretariat shared the views of the two speakers who had made statements on that topic. It was the aim of that subprogramme to get funding sources to understand the vital importance of Unesco's fields of competence in the general framework of the development process. The Secretariat, in close collaboration with the other Specialized Agencies, was keeping the necessary close watch in order to oppose the 'drift' that had been pointed out with respect to funding sources, which were frequently inclined to provide themselves with technical skills which could only overlap with those of the agencies and, in the long run, slow down action and make it more cumbersome.

(236) The acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations welcomed the support given by speakers to Subprogramme VIII.3.2, 'Mobilization of human resources', and explained that the Organization would attempt to find extra-budgetary resources for the implementation of activities that had been given second priority.

(237) Turning to the evaluation of training programmes, the representative of the Director-General said that that activity was provided for in document 23 C/5 and was already being carried out on a permanent basis by the Secretariat. This was done by means of interim reports, final reports and evaluation questionnaires, filled in by the fellowship holders during and at the end of their study period and also one year after their return to their country of origin, so that information could be obtained about how they had reintegrated into their own country. He added that that evaluation activity, carried out continuously by the Fellowships Division in collaboration with other evaluation units of the Secretariat, did not call for funds over and above those provided for that purpose in document 23 C/5.

(238) As far as the distribution of fellowships between the various regions was concerned, the representative of the Director-General explained that there could not be any quota system by region for the fellowships approved by the General Conference, since fellowships were allocated in collaboration with the programme sectors which determined the projects which could effectively benefit from those training activities. He nevertheless added that during the present biennium, under Subprogramme VIII.3.2, about 255 nationals from Latin America and the Caribbean had received local and regional training.

(239) In response to the request for clarification made by one speaker concerning the distribution of fellowships under each major programme, as shown in the table in paragraph 08318, the representative of the Director-General explained that Member States tended to give priority to education and science. Communication was a relatively recent field, which perhaps explained the smaller number of fellowships awarded under Major Programme III. He nevertheless said that a large number of fellowships and training courses in that field were offered under the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

(240) As regards the suggestion to create an African data bank on human resources, the representative of the Director-General reminded the meeting that information about all the fellowships awarded by the Organization in the various fields of Unesco's competence was published in the Annual Register of Unesco Fellowship Holders. In addition, a booklet was now being prepared to publicize all the possibilities for training that could be of interest to Member States, as well as those that the Organization could offer to them.

(241) Turning to the questions raised about Subprogramme VIII.3.3, concerning co-operation with Member States for the acquisition and use of equipment in the context of action for development, he was of the opinion that the problems raised by some speakers stemmed, as in the case of the activities of Programme VIII.2, from the presentation as a subprogramme of what was, in fact, a permanent function. So that this function should be better understood, he recommended referring not only to Volume II of document 23 C/5 but also to the relevant passage of document 23 C/5, Volume I, paragraph B213. It was stated there that inter alia, 'In the context of operational support for the implementation of development projects, ... and at the request of Member States, operations involving the purchase of equipment by tender on the international market will be organized' and that 'Support will be provided to countries requiring it to help them to identify their equipment needs'.

(242) There therefore existed, in fact, a twin function of counselling and expert opinion in the purchase of

technical and scientific equipment that, since the early 1950s, had been the responsibility of a specific division. That division had highly specialized technical personnel able, because of their excellent knowledge of all world markets, to guarantee that the equipment for projects was of the highest quality, was being bought at the most advantageous price and was most suited to needs. In volume, that purchasing function was still the principle one (it probably accounted for US \$30 million during the current biennium) even though Volume II of document C/5 placed more emphasis on counselling and training aspects under the new Subprogramme VIII.3.3.

(243) With regard to pilot projects, the acting Assistant Director-General was grateful to those speakers who had expressed their understanding of the aims of that subprogramme, which was expected to provide feedback in the form of specific data for the studies in Subprogramme VIII.1, in addition, of course, to their direct impact on certain local problems. Echoing the statements stressing that the industrialized countries themselves had to face up to difficulties directly or indirectly linked to the problems of development, he said that the pilot project on immigrant workers in Europe was not, in that context, by any means inopportune. The questions with which it dealt were, in actual fact, part of those general problems that affected not only Third World countries whose situation obliged them to exile a part of their labour force, but also the host countries where that labour force could not only contribute to industrial activity, but might also stimulate cultural development provided that certain social rigidities on the part of communities, local or immigrant, could be overcome.

(244) The representative of the Director-General recalled that the pilot projects were national projects to which Unesco supplied not only financial but also technical assistance. The number of projects that could be launched in 1986-1987 would once again amount to two or three, partly because of reduced budgetary resources, but also because one of the basic criteria set forth in the Medium-Term Plan was that those projects should have a multiplier effect, namely, that they should be capable, inter alia, of attracting further resources - extra-budgetary resources - for their continuation. Accordingly, the initial pilot project must have a basic budget adequate to ensure that its first results would interest other donors. That had occurred in the case of the Mayombe project, in which UNDP and French bilateral aid were already showing an interest. Nevertheless, with the funds at present foreseen, the available 'critical mass' was inadequate to launch a larger number of projects.

(245) Recommendations concerning Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3:

(a) Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3 did not give rise to any draft resolutions relating to the work plan.

(b) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the part relating to Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3 in resolution 8.1 proposed by the Director-General (23 C/Resolution 8.1, paras. (b) and (c)).

(c) The Commission, having considered the proposals of the Chairman concerning the allocation of supplementary resources for paragraph 08317, decided to make the following changes to that paragraph of 23 C/5:

paragraph 08317:

3 (b) Addition of a sum of \$50,000 to the provision;

3 (e) Addition of a sum of \$49,500 to the provision.

(d) The Commission also recommended that the General Conference should take note of the work plan for Programmes VIII.2 and VIII.3 (document 23 C/5, paras. 08202 to 08205, 08208 to 08211, 08214 to 08215, 08302 to 08309, 08312 to 08321, 08324 to 08328, 08330 to 08333, 08336 to 08403).

(e) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should approve under the regular programme, appropriations for Programme VIII.2 amounting to \$1,296,300 as proposed in paragraph 08201 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve a sum of \$747,700 representing second-priority activities (one asterisk), with the corresponding staff costs, under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds'), it being understood that the total of those appropriations could be subject to modification in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds to be allocated to that major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and any other adjustment decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(f) The Commission also decided to

recommend that the General Conference should approve, under the regular programme, appropriations for Programme VIII.3 amounting to \$8,725,300 as proposed in paragraph 08301 of document 23 C/5 after placing in reserve a sum of \$2,633,200 representing second priority activities (one asterisk), with the corresponding staff costs, under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds'), it being understood that the total of those appropriations could be subject to modification in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds to be allocated to that major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and any other adjustment decided on by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(246) Recommendations concerning Major Programme VIII:

(a) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the whole of resolution 8.1 proposed by the Director-General in document 23 C/5, as modified by the various draft resolutions (23 C/Resolution 8.1).

(b) It also decided to recommend that the General Conference should approve for Major Programme VIII appropriations amounting to \$14,147,300 as proposed in paragraph 08001 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve a sum of \$4,993,500 representing second priority activities (one asterisk), with the corresponding staff costs, under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds'), it being understood that the total of those appropriations could be subject to modification in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds to be allocated to that major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and any other adjustment decided on by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 24 - PART II.B, CHAPTER 4:

A. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(247) The Commission spent part of its tenth, eleventh and thirteenth meetings considering Discussion Unit 24, covering Part II.B, Chapter 4, Section 1 (External Relations).

(248) In introducing this discussion unit, the acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations pointed out that, in general, the activities covered by that section represented Unesco's continuing performance of functions whereby it ensured the continuity and the quality of its relations with its Member States and with a large number of intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations.

(249) He pointed out that Section 1 as such was not the subject of a proposed resolution covering all its component parts, but that, on the other hand, resolutions had, for specific reasons, been

proposed to the General Conference in regard to National Commissions and international non-governmental organizations

(250) He therefore concentrated mainly on describing the structure and responsibilities of the new External Relations and Public Information Sector, which would, among other things, be in charge of activities falling under Section 1 of Part II.B, Chapter 4. The establishment of the new sector, which had been decided at the same time as that of the Bureau of Studies of Action and Co-ordination for Development, was intended to meet the need for a more dynamic conception of the 'external relations' function in the widest sense.

(251) The new sector was to be responsible for relations with Member States and National Commissions, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and with foun-

dations, the press, radio and television.

(252) The External Relations and Public Information Sector consisted of two offices: one for relations with Member States and National Commissions, international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, and the other for relations with the press, the audio-visual media and the public in general.

(253) The External Relations Office comprised eight divisions. Five of them would be divisions responsible for relations with the Member States and regional institutions of Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States and Europe. One division would be responsible for relations with National Commissions and Unesco Clubs and another for relations with intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations and with foundations. A division of public relations would carry out most of the functions which had previously been the responsibility of the Division of Public Relations and Promotion of Information of the Office of Public Information.

(254) In general, the divisions making up the External Relations Office which had been part of the old CPX Sector of the old OPI would retain their former functions, with the exception of the geographical divisions. Those would be relieved of all the co-ordination and administration duties connected with operational activities which they had performed in CPX and would thus be able to devote themselves more fully to their job of maintaining liaison with the various Member States. They would, of course, continue to be informed about operational matters by the Bureau of Development but the latter would be responsible in that area for the work previously carried out by the regional divisions. Those divisions would accordingly be able to give more of their time to keeping Member States continuously informed about the Organization's methods and procedures and to maintaining contact with the permanent delegates. They would, in future, be responsible for liaison with the various National Commissions of the countries in their respective regions. Liaison with the National Commissions would thus be better tailored to local requirements by a larger number of staff members, familiar with the problems of the countries concerned. The National Commissions Division, whose staff would necessarily be small, would be able to devote its attention more fully to the 'collective' aspects of the programme of activities described in document 23 C/5.

(255) The acting Assistant Director-General mentioned correspondence recently sent out to the National Commissions announcing, in accordance with the wishes frequently expressed by regional and interregional meetings, that it was intended to start on the preliminary phase of an evaluation of the impact of the Charter of National Commissions, which was expected to lead to a strengthening

of the involvement of National Commissions in the life of the Organization.

(256) Document 23 C/5 did not contain any really new items so far as co-operation with intergovernmental organizations, whether or not belonging to the United Nations system, was concerned; further efforts to achieve rationalization would nevertheless be made in order to avoid any possible duplication, in accordance with the wishes of Member States. Co-operation with non-governmental organizations would also be stepped up, but on the basis of the same procedures as before.

(257) The acting Assistant Director-General drew attention on the other hand to the fact that co-operation with local communities, foundations and Unesco Clubs and Associations (paras. 15413 to 15423 of 23 C/5) would be divided between different divisions. The International Organizations and Foundations Division would be responsible for co-operation with local communities and foundations but, because of the close, and often organic, links between the National Commissions and the Unesco Clubs, relations with the Clubs would be maintained by the division which would be responsible for co-operation with the National Commissions, to which appropriate staff would be transferred.

General debate: decentralization

(258) The delegates of 39 Member States and a representative of the Standing Committee of International Non-Governmental Organizations took part in the discussions. Almost all the speakers who addressed themselves to this question welcomed the restructuring of the Organization's external relations. Several delegates stressed the importance of the decentralization process, hoping that it would be continued at a rapid pace and in accordance with the needs of the regions and the Member States. One speaker hoped that, once approved by the General Conference, substantive responsibilities and the corresponding human and financial resources would be transferred to the existing regional structures. Another speaker expressed the hope that there would be increased delegation of authority to the Regional Offices and that a staff policy encouraging staff mobility would be pursued with vigour.

Country approach - regional approach

(259) One speaker regretted that the presentation of those aspects of the external relations functions in 23 C/5 did not show evidence of enough new material or any real updating. He also hoped that, in the future, the part of document 23 C/11 dealing with external relations would, as in the case of the major programmes, include a critical section describing the obstacles and difficulties encountered and the results achieved.

(260) The question of Member States' relations with the Regional Offices and

with the Unesco representatives was brought up by several speakers, one of whom drew attention to the inadequacy of the resources available to the office of the representative serving his country.

(261) One speaker, introducing a draft resolution (23 C/DR.124) on behalf of the English and Dutch speakers of the Caribbean subregion, proposed that the effectiveness of an integrated intersectoral approach within the framework of decentralization should be tested and evaluated within this subregion by transforming the existing office of the Unesco representative to the Caribbean into an integrated, intersectoral office and by decentralizing directly to it the appropriate sectoral resources. A further innovation proposed for this office would be the provision of a microcomputer conferencing system which would enable Member States and their National Commissions to exchange information and interact with this office on a continuing basis in the planning and execution of Unesco's activities in the subregion. This, it was felt, could serve as a pilot project for and between other regions. The speaker stressed that these proposals represented the unanimous views expressed by the Fourth Meeting of the Caribbean Ministers responsible for Unesco Affairs, who nevertheless wished to record their appreciation of the initiatives ahead taken by the Director-General in meeting the needs of the subregion.

(262) One delegation, supported by several others, recommended that, from 1986 onwards, so far as budgetary resources allowed, the necessary arrangements should be made for establishing a regional co-ordinator's office in every region. It was also hoped that, in order to avoid duplication, the functions and responsibilities of such co-ordinators would be precisely defined and that, at the same time, the need to strengthen the existing Regional Offices would be kept well to the fore.

(263) Several delegates stressed the need to strengthen the role of the Regional Offices. One delegate urged that decentralization should be taken all the way by increasing the responsibilities of the Regional Offices. Several speakers hoped that any cuts in the Regional Offices' budgets would be kept to a minimum.

(264) Frequent reference was made to the offices located in particular regions. Two speakers hoped that the Scientific Co-operation Bureau for Europe would shortly be opened in Vienna. Another asked for the return of the Regional Office for Science and Technology for the Arab States to Egypt. Yet another speaker referred to the inadequate resources of the Regional Office for Science and Technology for South-East Asia. One delegate, referring to the Kingston Office, pointed out that it served the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

(265) The subject of co-operation between the Member States of the European region was taken up by several speakers,

who referred to many achievements already recorded in that area, mentioning particularly the promising European Cultural Forum which was opening on the same date in Budapest, an activity stemming from the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE).

(266) A draft resolution on European co-operation (23 C/DR.141) was presented by the German Democratic Republic during the discussion and a written amendment by the sponsors of the same draft resolution was submitted to the Chairman. On the Chairman's proposal, a working group, consisting of France, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary and Norway, was formed to consider that draft resolution, as amended.

(267) One speaker was surprised at the meagre resources assigned to the Europe region (23 C/5, para. 15411) which, he calculated, represented only 2.5 per cent of the sums provided under the 'Country approach - regional approach' heading.

Co-operation with international non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

(268) Several delegates expressed great interest in the development of co-operation with international non-governmental organizations, pointing out that the latter played a particularly useful part, complementing the role of governments, in the establishment of bonds of fellowship among peoples.

(269) Referring to the work plan proposed in paragraph 15416 of document 23 C/5, several speakers deplored the meagre resources provided for the maintenance of permanent dialogue and the development of co-operation between Unesco and so many international non-governmental organizations.

(270) One delegate said that the non-governmental organizations should be called upon to play an increasingly important part in the context of decentralization. Another speaker added that support for non-governmental organizations should be increased in view of the place they occupied in co-operation between Member States and with Unesco.

(271) One speaker said that non-governmental organizations which wished to maintain official relations with Unesco should comply with the General Conference resolutions and Executive Board decisions with regard to any members they might have in the Republic of South Africa and Taiwan of China.

(272) Two delegates asked for the Commission to be given information about the system for allocating subventions to a number of international non-governmental organizations.

(273) Lastly, the Chairman of the Standing Committee of non-governmental organizations having consultative status with Unesco (categories A and B) emphasized the usefulness of the regional consultations with non-governmental organizations provided for in paragraph 15416 of document 23 C/5, which should be of assistance in getting non-governmental

organizations established in the developing countries. On the question of subventions, he hoped that the General Conference would give serious consideration to the suggestion, made by the Director-General in his introduction to the general policy debate, that all the subventions proposed for certain non-governmental organizations should continue to be ranked as first priority. The Chairman of the Standing Committee stressed the convergent roles of National Commissions and non-governmental organizations and suggested that the structure of the Secretariat should take account of the fact that the two were complementary. Lastly, he asked the Secretariat, in connection with Unesco's next Medium-Term Plan, to re-examine the Organization's procedures for co-operation with non-governmental organizations, taking into account, inter alia, that there were certain networks of associations which had not so far been considered.

Relations with intergovernmental organizations

(274) Prompted in particular by their concern to avoid duplication between organizations working in areas that were often interrelated, two speakers expressed their keen interest in the maintenance of close relations between Unesco, the organizations of the United Nations system and, more especially, the Secretariats of the Specialized Agencies, and the various other intergovernmental organizations.

(275) After regretting the absence of SADCC* from the list of intergovernmental organizations, three delegates, one of whom announced that he was speaking on behalf of 14 countries, asked that that intergovernmental committee should in future be included in that list. One of them asked for support to be given to SADCC.

Co-operation with National Commissions

(276) A considerable number of speakers stressed the importance of the functions and role of the National Commissions in the life of the Organization. Referring to the provisions of Article VII of Unesco's Constitution, they drew attention to the fact that the National Commissions for Unesco constituted a unique mechanism in the United Nations system which was very useful for Member States and for Unesco, and that it was necessary to make the best possible use of it so as to strengthen co-operation between Member States and the Organization.

(277) A great many delegates expressed concern about the size of the reductions in appropriations for the activities of the National Commissions, drawing attention to the disparity between the importance of the role of the National Commissions and the inadequacy of resources. These speakers described in great detail the various aspects of the

activities of the National Commissions. Repeated references were made to the key role of National Commissions in international co-operation, in disseminating the ideals of Unesco, in devising, preparing and implementing the Organization's programmes and in the relations between Unesco and intellectual circles, institutions and administrative departments in Member States.

(278) Describing the National Commissions as the linchpin of the complex system of Unesco, one delegate, whose observations were quoted or referred to by several speakers, considered that the role of the National Commissions was not recognized by all the various bodies of the Organization and that the National Commissions were the 'poor relations' of the Organization. One delegate thought that the reduction in the resources earmarked for the activities of the National Commissions called in question their role. Another stressed the need for improved communication between the National Commissions and the Secretariat. One speaker suggested innovative approaches in strengthening National Commissions in developing countries, such as development of modules for setting up or extending National Commissions within the framework of a study with an input from experienced secretaries-general and a trial run for an inter-National Commissions technical assistance programme.

(279) Three delegates said that, since the National Commissions were national institutions, it was for Member States to see to their functioning. Another added that Unesco's contribution to the implementation of the activities of the National Commissions should supplement the expenses borne by Member States. One delegate said that the functioning of the National Commissions depended on the status they enjoyed in the Member States. Another suggested that the Charter of National Commissions should be redrafted.

(280) One delegate who spoke on this question pointed out that the Organization also had obligations towards National Commissions.

(281) Referring to the appropriations for co-operation with National Commissions provided for in document 23 C/5 and taking into account the reductions set out in document 23 C/6 Add., 26 delegates clearly expressed their disagreement with the proposed cuts (US \$240,000 for programme activities and US \$539,500 under the participation programme); they asked for these proposals to be re-examined, bearing in mind the vital importance of the activities of the National Commissions and their role in the life of the Organization, and the adverse effects of so drastic a reduction on the activities of the National Commissions and consequently on the life of the Organization itself.

(282) Criticizing some aspects of the restructuring process, several delegates

* SADCC: Southern African Development Co-ordination Committee.

wondered whether a division consisting of two Professional staff members was viable. Another delegate, raising an objection, pointed out that the need for flexibility should not be overlooked in the restructuring process. Some delegates expressed their disagreement with the reduction in the staff of the National Commissions and Unesco Clubs Division and wondered whether the Secretariat, weakened to that extent, would be able to cope with the workload that was necessary for proper co-operation with the National Commissions. Three delegates said that the reduction by one-half of the staff of the Division and of its financial resources by more than 30 per cent would have catastrophic consequences.

(283) One delegate, speaking on behalf of all the Nordic countries, proposed during the debate an amendment to the proposed resolution in paragraph 15424 of document 23 C/5, to the effect that the Director-General would be invited to maintain the staff and financial resources at a 'sufficiently high' level to enable the Secretariat to discharge its duties, having in mind, in particular, the needs of the National Commissions of the developing countries. Most of those who spoke supported the Nordic proposal.

(284) In the view of two speakers, however, it would be more appropriate, having regard to the present financial situation, to adopt the programme as proposed in document 23 C/5, requesting the Secretariat to take account in due course, at the time of the preparation of document 24 C/5, of the criticisms and proposals made during the debate.

(285) Several speakers were of the opinion that, since the limited appropriations proposed for the National Commissions were contained in Part II.B, which was not an integral part of the consensus reached by the Executive Board at its 121st session (cf. document 23 C/6), it was possible that they might not be considered definitive and could be increased by the General Conference which was sovereign in regard to proposals contained in the annex to document 23 C/6 Add. Clarifications were requested from the Secretariat.

(286) The majority of speakers said that, given the importance of the role of the National Commissions as defined in the Charter of National Commissions (particularly under Article IV), the Organization should provide them with all necessary assistance and appropriate moral, technical and financial support for the development of their structures and capacities, so as to enable them to contribute fully to the fulfilment of the Organization's aims, objectives and programmes. Information courses for members of the Secretariat of National Commissions and collective consultations of Secretaries of National Commissions held at Headquarters or in the Regional Offices, or again on the initiative of the Member States themselves, were mentioned as appropriate means to this end. One delegate reported on an information

seminar for a group of National Commission officials from 14 Member States of South-East Africa. Some delegates pointed out that at the Eighth Meeting of National Commissions of Latin America and the Caribbean a mechanism had been established for drawing up regional and sub-regional projects. Likewise, one of them thought that it would be advisable to organize regional meetings every two years.

(287) Most delegates expressed their support for the training programme for members of the Secretariat of National Commissions (para. 15425 of document 23 C/5). They stressed the importance of information courses on special subjects such as documentation (para. 15425(iv)) or decentralization and the activities of the Regional Offices. The need for information courses and collective consultations to be organized at or away from Headquarters, in co-operation with the Regional Offices or at the request of Member States, was emphasized in particular by delegates representing the developing countries. Many speakers said in this connection that the information courses and collective consultations gave participants an opportunity to exchange views on Unesco's programmes and on other important questions relating to the life of the Organization. One speaker suggested that the collective consultations, for several reasons, should take place in the first year of the biennium. Some speakers expressed their satisfaction with the fact that the Secretariat had organized an information course for new Secretaries during the current session of the General Conference.

(288) Several delegates were pleased to note that the process of evaluating the application of the Charter of National Commissions had been set in motion. However, since the Charter made separate provision for the responsibilities of Member States, National Commissions and the Secretariat, some thought that the evaluation should encompass National Commissions, Member States and the Secretariat, as the Charter was a tripartite instrument.

(289) Several delegates explained, in more or less the same terms, that they had been unable to submit their replies to letter CPX/NAC/C/1-4745 of 30 September 1985 within the stated time-limit, the main reason given being the fact that the Secretaries and members of the National Commissions for Unesco were attending the twenty-third session of the General Conference; they requested an extension of the deadline.

(290) Several delegates spoke of the importance of the role of National Commissions in providing information to intellectual circles in their respective countries. Some emphasized the information to be provided to ministries and government departments, while others felt that information should be provided as a matter of priority to intellectual circles and specialists. Most speakers stressed, however, the importance of

information about Unesco for the general public.

(291) Some delegates proposed that special posts should be established to this effect within the National Commission Secretariats; one suggested that professional journalists should be engaged by the National Commissions to take charge of informing the general public about the Organization's activities.

(292) Several speakers expressed the view that the need to pursue decentralization was a subject of great interest to the National Commissions, since the Regional Offices and established Units away from Headquarters were becoming increasingly responsible for carrying out Unesco's programme activities and were able to associate the National Commissions with that work to a greater and greater extent. They also stressed that recourse to the National Commissions was one of the forms of decentralization.

(293) Some delegates wished to see stronger links between the Regional Offices and the National Commissions, with periodical visits by those in charge of the Regional Offices to the National Commissions and vice versa.

(294) It was the wish of several speakers that the National Commissions associate themselves more closely with the activities of the Unesco Clubs in their respective countries and ensure that these Clubs brought young people together by means of activities designed to spread knowledge of Unesco's ideals, aims, objectives, programmes and activities and to contribute to mutual understanding among the younger generation in all the countries of the world. The character and aims of the Unesco Clubs were seen as being very closely linked to those of the National Commissions which, in the view of some speakers, should provide the Unesco Clubs with all possible moral and material support.

(295) Some speakers said that the Associated Schools, even though they came under a different chapter in the programme, should - like the Unesco Clubs - be accorded all possible attention by the National Commissions.

(296) Several delegates supported the programme for co-operation with the National Commissions proposed in document 23 C/5, some placing particular emphasis on the importance of activities for training and subregional, regional and interregional co-operation among the Commissions. One delegate stressed the importance of interregional consultation.

(297) Three speakers considered that the proposed programme was devoid of the kind of innovative ideas that would provide a better response to the needs of National Commissions.

Reply by the acting Assistant
Director-General for Co-operation
for Development and External
Relations

(298) In answer to observations that had been made about decentralization, the acting Assistant Director-General first

of all emphasized that, despite the fact that the word decentralization appeared in the title of that chapter, which concerned the operation of certain offices away from Headquarters, it should be appreciated that the decentralization process in reality concerned the entire Secretariat and practically the entire programme. He drew the Commission's attention to the fuller information that could be found in paragraphs A66 to A73 of the 23 C/5, Volume I, which were specifically devoted to decentralization in the broadest sense.

(299) As for the regional co-ordinators, who in fact came under the Services of the Directorate (Part I of the 23 C/5), he pointed out that the Secretariat shared the concern expressed by one speaker that they should take up their posts quickly, after a systematic analysis of the duties to be assigned to them, which should, furthermore, take account of the particular features of the regions concerned. The acting Assistant Director-General was able to give assurances that, in particular, the Secretariat would actively concern itself with the matter, especially in connection with the regional co-ordinators for Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

(300) He considered the observation concerning the possible inclusion in document 23 C/11 of the same headings for the section 'External Relations' as for the chapters of that document relating to the major programmes to be very much to the point.

(301) As for the funds allocated in document 23 C/5 for the country approach and the regional approach in Europe, which one speaker had regarded as too modest, he pointed out that they represented operating costs and the travel costs of the Europe Division, which were for obvious reasons less than those of the other divisions. Furthermore, the corresponding sums for the other regions included an amount of US \$926,300 to cover the operating costs of the Offices of the Unesco representatives in the developing countries, for which there was no equivalent in Europe.

(302) On the subject of relations with the international non-governmental organizations, the representative of the Director-General stressed the importance that Unesco gave to the development of co-operation with the international associations working in the various fields of competence of the Organization.

(303) While recognizing that the resources allocated in the work plan appearing in paragraph 15416 of document 23 C/5 (US \$125,200) were not commensurate with the needs and in particular did not allow all the ambitions contained in the Organization's second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989) to be achieved, he assured the Commission that even so the essential tasks could be carried out during the forthcoming biennium, including those that involved associating the non-governmental organizations with the formulation and implementation of the

Programme Commissions

programme. He also observed that document 23 C/5 contained numerous activities enabling the non-governmental organizations to take part in the achievement of the objectives and programmes of the Organization, either in the form of subventions or by means of contracts, or in the context of the participation programme.

(304) As for the organization of the collective consultations with non-governmental organizations envisaged at the regional level, the acting Assistant Director-General indicated that the consultations would be prepared by the Secretariat with the greatest care, in co-operation with the Standing Committee of non-governmental organizations, with the aim particularly of strengthening the action of the non-governmental organizations in the developing countries. He took due note of the wish expressed by the Chairman of the Standing Committee of non-governmental organizations that, in the context of the preparation of the Organization's third Medium-Term Plan, consideration be given to the possibility of taking account, in the system of co-operation between Unesco and the non-governmental organizations, of the new forms taken by the work of associations on the international, regional and national levels. Although it was foreseen that the development of Unesco's relations with the National Commissions and international non-governmental organizations should be the responsibility of two different units of the Secretariat, every effort would be made during the forthcoming biennium to see that they complemented and reinforced each other, particularly in connection with mobilizing the educational, scientific and cultural communities - and public opinion in general - behind the ideals and objectives of the Organization.

(305) As for the subventions, he recalled that Article VI.1 of the Directives concerning Unesco's relations with international non-governmental organizations stipulated that financial aid in the form of subventions might be granted 'to a restricted number of international non-governmental organizations in categories A and B which, by their own activities, make a particularly valuable contribution to the achievement of Unesco's objectives'. In accordance with Article VI.7 of the Directives, it was for the General Conference to determine 'for each programme chapter, the total sum of appropriations for subventions to international non-governmental organizations and give the Executive Board general directives concerning their use'. Article VI.9 stipulated that, for its part, the Executive Board should give attention, within the general limits of the budgetary allocations voted by the General Conference, to the proposals for subventions submitted by the Director-General and should determine the amount of each subvention and the purposes for which it was to be granted. He informed the Commission that for the biennium that was coming to an end (1984-1985), Unesco had granted subventions to 36 non-

governmental organizations amounting in all to US \$5,753,900 (recosted total - document 22 C/5 Approved). He also pointed out that, for 1986-1987, the subventions foreseen in document 23 C/5 for 39 non-governmental organizations amounted to US \$5,180,200. Of that sum the Executive Board had decided to recommend that the sum of US \$900,000 be placed in reserve, under Part IX of the budget, to which US \$440,000 was to be added, this latter sum concerning a part of the subvention proposed for two scientific organizations and already appearing with second priority in document 23 C/5, i.e. a total of US \$1,340,000 to be distributed among the non-governmental organizations listed in document 23 C/6 Add. - Annex I.

(306) In answer to the two speakers who had referred to Unesco's co-operation with the intergovernmental organizations, the representative of the Director-General said that the Secretariat maintained close relations not only with the various organizations of the United Nations and the secretariats of the Specialized Agencies but also with a large number of regional or interregional intergovernmental organizations, in a number of cases under formal co-operation agreements. Apart from the fact that it meant duplication could be avoided, he said that that type of co-operation encouraged the concentration of efforts among organizations pursuing complementary aims.

(307) Replying to observations on the proposed programme for the National Commissions, the acting Assistant Director-General stated that several of them seemed to have been made as if the speakers were unaware of the current situation of the Secretariat and the Organization in general.

(308) The reductions in the appropriations had, in fact, been considered and approved by the Executive Board at its 122nd session. Speakers had stressed the fact that appropriations had been reduced by 28 per cent instead of 25 per cent. From document 23 C/6 Add. it could be seen that the reduction demanded in the budget for Chapter 4 of Part II.B was 25.19 per cent (23 C/5, para. 15401), or US \$3,364,800. The reductions actually made, however, amounted to US \$2,419,000, which was therefore below the level that had been required of CPX.

(309) The cuts had been carried out not by the linear application of the same rate reduction, but by taking into account the comparative funding levels corresponding to the different parts of the chapter. The allocations earmarked for some parts had been so slight to begin with that a cut of 25 per cent would have reduced them to nothing. Having regard to what remained, and contrary to what the general tenor of the debate might imply, it could not be said that the National Commissions programme had been whittled down to nothing. As three speakers had stressed, it was important, as far as the funds that remained were concerned, to determine the

new priorities, that had at all events, to be taken into account in that difficult period. Those new priorities had not been identified in the course of the discussion, and this was regrettable, since the Secretariat could have used them as a basis in establishing the corresponding activities. He hoped that the regional meetings of National Commissions that were to take place, following formal practice, during the remainder of the General Conference would provide the opportunity for defining those priorities.

(310) With regard to the aspects of the participation programme that concerned the National Commissions, the downgrading in respect of initial provisions had been less marked than that affecting the major programmes.

(311) In the restructuration process and consequent redeployment of personnel, the staffing situation of the National Commissions and Unesco Clubs Division had been treated in the same way as that of other units in the former CPX Sector. The acting Assistant Director-General said that activities relating to the Unesco Clubs were now included in the same division as the National Commissions, and the staff that had been responsible for Unesco Clubs in the Office of Public Information would be transferred to the Division.

(312) As for what one speaker had described as the 'poverty' of the programme, document 23 C/5 could only set out, in a style that was perforce concise, activities whose full content would depend, when the time came, on the imagination and competence of those who were to implement them. That kind of challenge was not new, and the National Commissions had always been able to rise to it magnificently.

(313) The acting Assistant Director-General returned to the subject of the evaluation of the impact of the Charter, to which only a few speakers had referred. However, the evaluation process, which had so often been requested by the National Commissions, involved the National Commissions themselves, the Secretariat, and also, of course, the governments - which showed how important such evaluation was, especially with respect to the concern that had been expressed by one speaker and taken up by several others, in regard to the status of the Commissions in the national context.

(314) Concerning the interpretation of the data provided in document 23 C/6 Add., detailed background information was given to the Commission by the acting Director of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, who observed that, in theory, the General Conference could indeed reconsider the figures relating to Part II.B in that document. Furthermore, the Commission could draw on the sum of US \$151,500 which constituted the portion of the Reserve for Draft Resolutions having budgetary implications, corresponding to the whole of Part II.B.

(315) One delegate then proposed that

a working group be set up in order to find ways of strengthening the appropriations earmarked for co-operation with the National Commissions. The Chairman of the Commission requested each regional group to designate two representatives, and asked that the group thus formed make specific proposals to the Commission. The working group, comprising representatives from the delegations of Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, India, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, held a meeting and elected the delegate of Denmark as its Chairman.

Recommendations concerning
Part II.B, 4, Section: External
Relations

(316) Draft resolution 178 was introduced by the delegate of France. Paragraph 3(b) of proposed resolution 15.5 (para. 15424 of the 23 C/5) was amended to read as follows:

'to provide their respective National Commissions, within the limits of their capabilities, with staff, financial resources and a national status sufficient to enable them to carry out their work effectively and play an increased part in the activities of the Organization;'

The proposals in paragraph 1 of the note by the Director-General having been accepted by the authors of the draft resolution, the new paragraph 3(c) read as follows:

'to upgrade the functions of their National Commissions to enable them to undertake effective action, nationally, regionally and interregionally, in Unesco's fields of competence, so as to help to achieve the aims defined in Article I of the Constitution.'

The suggestion in paragraph 2 of the note by the Director-General having been accepted, paragraph 5(b) of the proposed resolution (para. 15424 of the 23 C/5) read as follows:

'to encourage the National Commissions, with the support of the appropriate units of the Secretariat, to pursue their information and promotion efforts in all the fields of Unesco's competence;'

The proposal to change the order of the subparagraphs in paragraph 5 having been accepted, (c) became (a), (a) became (b) and (b) became (c).

The proposal to adopt a new paragraph 6 to the proposed resolution (para. 15424 of the 23 C/5) was accepted and it read as follows:

'Further invites the Director-General, in accordance with Article V of the Charter of the National Commissions relating to the responsibilities of Unesco towards National Commissions, to explore all ways and means of strengthening collaboration between the Secretariat and the National Commissions.'

(317) The Nordic countries proposed the addition at the end of paragraph 6 of

Programme Commissions

the proposed resolution in the 23 C/5 of the following phrase:

'and, to that end, to keep the staff and budget of the programme of co-operation with the National Commissions at a sufficiently high level, taking account in particular of the needs of the National Commissions of the developing countries.'

(318) Proposed resolution 15.5 (para. 15424 of the 23 C/5) was adopted by the Commission as amended (23 C/Resolution 18.3).

(319) In view of the note by the Director-General, draft resolution 16 was withdrawn.

(320) Also in the light of the note by the Director-General, draft resolution 44 was withdrawn.

(321) Draft resolution 54 was withdrawn by its author.

(322) After a long discussion, various amendments were made to draft resolution 23 C/DR.124, which was then adopted (23 C/Resolution 18.2).

(323) Draft resolution 141 was entrusted to the working group. The revised version, bearing the document number 23 C/DR.141 Rev., submitted to the Commission by the delegate of the German Democratic Republic was unanimously adopted (23 C/Resolution 18.1).

(324) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 15.4 contained in paragraph 15415 of the 23 C/5 (23 C/Resolution 18.4).

(325) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan for Part II.B, 4, Section I, in paragraphs 15404-15414, 15416-15423, 15425-15429 of document 23 C/5. As regards the work plan for co-operation with National Commissions in paragraphs 15425-15426, the Commission noted that a proposal for its revision had been suggested in the Commission's working group for consideration by the Secretariat. The Commission considered that this revision should be taken into account in an appropriate manner when preparing 23 C/5 Approved within the framework of the approved budget provisions and programme resolution for this section. As for paragraph 15429 regarding co-operation with National Commissions through the participation

programme, the Commission recommended, on the advice of the joint meeting of its bureau and its working group, that the first priority of this section should be to finance the interregional consultation of National Commissions with a view to the preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan and the identification of fields of common interest and areas for co-operation.

(326) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the budget estimate of \$12,061,000 for Part II.B, 4, Section I, External Relations, after taking account of a sum of \$2,419,000 which would be transferred to Part IX (Blocked Funds) of the budget.

(327) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the budgetary provision for the Office of the Assistant Director-General under the regular programme.

(328) The Commission, on the proposal of its working group, recommended that with respect to the provision for co-operation with National Commissions (23 C/5, paras. 15424 to 15428) \$62,000 be added thereto from the amount of \$151,600 assigned to Commission I from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions. Thus, the proposed reduction of \$240,100 would be reduced to \$178,100. The reduction of \$539,500 under the participation programme for National Commissions (para. 15429) would be maintained, on the understanding that the Director-General might wish to give priority consideration to earmarking an amount in excess of \$100,000 therefor under the participation programme included under the Special Account for Voluntary Contributions from Member States. The Commission was informed that the working group had taken note of a proposal for a revision of the work plan for paragraphs 15425 and 15426 under co-operation with National Commissions. The working group did not have time to make a detailed examination of the proposed revised work plan. However, this proposed revision could, where possible, be taken into account by the Secretariat in an appropriate manner, consistent with the programme resolution adopted for this section, and within the existing budget provisions, when the Secretariat prepared document 23 C/5 Approved.

B. PUBLIC INFORMATION

(329) The 13th, 14th and 17th meetings of Commission I were partly devoted to consideration of unit 24 relating to Part II.B, Chapter 4, Section II, Public Information, of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

(330) After the Chairman of the Commission had emphasized the importance of that chapter, which directly concerned the image of Unesco in the Member States, the acting Director of the Office of Public Information, speaking as representative of the Director-General, intro-

duced Section I as restructured in July 1985. It now comprised three divisions: The Press Division, which was responsible for producing current information, comprised two units: an editorial unit and the Press Room. These units were closely linked and their activities were complementary.

The Audiovisual Information Division had, in its own field, similar functions to those of the Press Division.

The Division for the Production, Dissemination and Storage of Basic

Information Material and Documentation would serve as a documentation centre and data bank.

(331) The newly adopted strategy, which aimed to present Unesco's programmes and achievements to best advantage, sought to maintain special relationships with the information media that could reach the widest national, regional or international audiences. The Office would also lend its support to the National Commissions, the relevant non-governmental organizations and the Unesco Clubs so that these could in their turn participate actively in acquainting the public with the Organization's objectives and achievements. Closer co-operation would be developed with the programme sectors, each of which had appointed a correspondent responsible for information. The regionalization policy would be strengthened by increased involvement of the Regional Offices and by gradually setting up regional networks of local correspondents. There would be continuous evaluation of the material produced by the Office and of its impact.

(332) The Commission's attention was also drawn to the appointment by the Director-General of a spokesman placed under his immediate authority. Lastly, it was pointed out that important programmes which had hitherto come under the Office had been transferred to other units of the Secretariat. Thus the Unesco Clubs, co-operation with foundations and municipalities, and the Public Relations Division now came under the Office responsible for external relations. The Co-operative Action Programme, the Unesco Coupon Scheme, the Philatelic and Numismatic Programme came under the Bureau of Development and the Unesco Courier under the new Periodicals Division.

Debate

(333) The representatives of 23 Member States and the Chairman of the Standing Committee of Non-governmental Organizations, Co-Chairman of the Joint Unesco/NGOs working group on public information, took part on the debate on these questions.

(334) All the speakers stressed the importance they attached to information problems. Many of them expressed the hope that the new structures would prove effective and would make it possible to improve the quality of the services produced by the Office and its methods of work.

(335) Some delegates noted the difficulty experienced by the Organization in putting across information about Unesco, one delegate regretting the absence of change in the 23 C/5 in relation to the 22 C/5.

(336) One delegate referred to the pressures under which OPI had worked during the last two years.

(337) Other delegates emphasized the campaign to which Unesco had been subjected in recent years in certain sectors of the press in a number of countries.

(338) Several delegates stressed the

importance of selecting the spokesman and the members of the Office from among communication professionals, and of ensuring that geographical criteria were respected in choosing them. In that connection, draft resolution 187 was widely supported before being adopted.

(339) Several delegates mentioned the need to put the reforms which had been decided upon into operation without delay so that the new structure - which, generally speaking, received the support of the Commission - could be tried out.

(340) Several speakers expressed the wish that the written information material produced by the Secretariat should be appropriate in character and should be distributed with the greatest care, whilst the disappearance of 'Unesco Features' was considered untimely. Appreciation was expressed of the material sent out, in particular the photographic exhibitions.

(341) Several delegates emphasized the importance of maintaining an 'open attitude' towards the press, even when it was critical, and urged the Office to concentrate efforts on co-operation with the mass media.

(342) Many speakers found it appropriate that there should be a decentralization of public information, achieved by involving the Regional Offices and the National Commissions, so that the development of OPI should keep pace with that of the Organization as a whole. In that connection, one delegate proposed that certain National Commissions should have a professional journalist on the staff of their secretariats, working under contract with Unesco, and should obtain air-time on the radio.

(343) One delegate considered that the proposed work plan was unimaginative and was still too much like the previous programme and budget.

(344) Several delegates thought it advisable to make an effort to reach specialized audiences by means of the newsletters of the non-governmental organizations and by journalists who were familiar with well-defined fields (education, science, culture) and who closely followed the activities of the programme sectors. In that connection, it was suggested that journalists should prepare files with photographs and graphic material that could be used by the Press Room, which should make a great effort to improve the services it provided.

(345) One delegate stated that the joint Unesco/NGO Committee on public information could play a very useful role. The Chairman of the NGO's Standing Committee assured the Commission in that connection of the full co-operation of the non-governmental organizations, in particular those which were specialized in public information and which used the electronic media. He pointed out that the joint Unesco/NGO working group on public information constituted a permanent 'task force' which would continue to do its part.

(346) One delegate expressed regret that the Co-operative Action Programme

had been transferred to another Office, considering that it was also a public information programme.

(347) Several delegates stressed the need to improve co-ordination with the programme sectors, which should bear joint responsibility for public information. Every Unesco project, every action undertaken by the Organization should have an information component. OPI should have at its disposal specialized professional journalists responsible for information sector by sector.

(348) Some delegates said how useful they found the seminars on public information organized for the secretaries of National Commissions and communication professionals. They remarked on the success of the exhibitions organized by the Office, and of the Unesco Weeks which had been well attended in many Member States.

(349) One delegate wanted Unesco, which had hitherto concentrated on the production of written material, to produce more audio-visual material. Several speakers were in favour of incorporating locally filmed sequences in audio-visual material produced at Headquarters.

(350) One delegate asked for a continuing evaluation of the results obtained by the Office to be carried out with the involvement of National Commissions and also include the use of experts from outside the Organization.

(351) Another delegate proposed that Unesco endeavour to penetrate existing national and international communication systems, in particular the United Nations network. He also asked that information efforts be undertaken to reach those in positions of political authority.

(352) Several delegates referred to the Unesco Clubs programme, asking that the Organization continue to give it its support and suggesting that relations with the Associated Schools Project be made closer.

(353) At the end of the debate in the 14th meeting, the acting Director of the Office of Public Information, speaking at the request of the Chairman of the Commission, expressed his thanks to the members of the Commission for the interesting debate and the criticism expressed. He gave a detailed report on the activities undertaken by the Office during the biennium, and pointed out that the staff of the Office were information professionals recruited as such by the Director-General.

(354) Draft resolution 37 had been adopted beforehand, including the text proposed in the note by the Director-General in paragraph 15474 (organization of cultural events), without any extra-budgetary provision.

(355) The Chairman of the Commission announced that draft resolution 54 had been withdrawn by its author.

(356) Draft resolution 56 was adopted as it stood.

(357) During its 17th meeting, the Commission adopted draft resolution 230,

taking account of the observations made in the note by the Director-General. The resolution as approved read as follows:

'The Organization will associate itself, on 29 November each year, starting in 1986, with the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, by organizing an event of a cultural nature to make known the cultural heritage and cultural identity of the Palestinian people.'

(358) Lastly, the Commission adopted the following text on the recommendation of the working group set up by Commission I on adjustments to be made to Part II.B of the Draft Programme and Budget. The text should be inserted after paragraph 15455:

'Thus, co-operation with the National Commissions will be strengthened in the form of contracts awarded primarily to activities aimed at informing and involving the public through sub-regional and regional projects. A sum of at least \$100,000 will be set aside for such contracts in the budgets relating to information and public relations.'

(359) Recommendations in relation to Part II.B, Chapter 4: Public Information:

(a) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plan in paragraphs 15451-15487 of 23 C/5 as amended by draft resolution 37 and the recommendations of the working group.

(b) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the budget estimate of \$9,088,100 for Part II.B, 4, Public Information, under the regular programme in paragraph 15450 of 23 C/5, after taking account of a sum of \$1,212,000 which would be transferred to Part IX of the budget in accordance with the recommendations of the Executive Board in Annex II of document 23 C/6 Add., on the basis of decision 4.1 (section II, para. 4) adopted by the Executive Board at its 122nd session.

(c) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt draft resolution DR.56 (23 C/Resolution 18.7).

(d) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 187 (23 C/Resolution 18.6).

(e) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt draft resolution DR.230 as amended (23 C/Resolution 18.8).

(360) Recommendations relating to Part II.B 4:

Section 1: External Relations

Section 2: Public Information

The Commission recommends that the General Conference approve an appropriation of \$21,149,100 under the regular programme (para. 15401 of 23 C/5) for Part II.B, Chapter 4 - External Relations and Public Information - after placing in reserve in Part IX of the budget - Blocked Funds - a sum of \$3,631,000 representing second priority activities, along with the corresponding staff appropriations.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 25 - PART II.B, CHAPTER 5:
PARTICIPATION PROGRAMME

(361) Commission I devoted its thirteenth and part of its fourteenth meetings to examination of unit 25 - Part II.B, Chapter 5 - Participation Programme. In introducing this chapter, the acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations drew the Commission's attention to document 23 C/6 Add.2, which contained a recommendation made to the General Conference by the Executive Board at its 122nd session concerning the amendment of paragraph 7(a) of Proposed Resolution 15.6 (23 C/5, Volume II, para. 15502). He spoke of the importance that Member States, industrialized and developing alike, attached to the participation programme. Their interest was demonstrated by the continual increase in the number and volume of requests made during preceding biennia: in 1979-1980, US \$40 million would have been needed to meet all the requests received; in 1981-1983 (a three-year financial period) US \$62 million would have been required; and for the current biennium, requests already received involved the expenditure of over US \$49 million, whereas the amount approved by the General Conference at its twenty-second session was US \$14 million.

(362) Another indicator was the number of requests, particularly important when one considered the volume of work it required of the Secretariat. Despite the appeal to Member States to limit their requests in all categories to 20 per country, the Secretariat had received 3,192, of which the Director-General had been unable to approve more than 1,543. The volume of work involved for a request that was finally turned down was the same as that for a request that was accepted. The representative of the Director-General therefore reiterated the appeal for more rigorous selection by Member States in order to reduce the number of requests per country to twenty. This would make it possible to rationalize the Secretariat's work and deal with the requests more efficiently.

(363) The acting Assistant Director-General regretted that the circular letter concerning the requests to be submitted in 1986-1987 had been sent out late this year. As a partial compensation for the delay, Member States would be given until the end of November, instead of the end of October, to submit their category I requests. The circular letter had pointed out that for appropriations under the participation programme, out of US \$19,849,600 appearing in paragraph 15504 of 23 C/5, US \$8,621,200 had been accorded second priority, and that decision had been further modified, since the Executive Board at its 122nd session had proposed that US \$7,179,700 should in fact be accorded second priority. The result was that, if the General Conference followed the Board's advice, the budget for the participation programme for 1986-1987 would amount to only

US \$10,669,900 i.e. 70 per cent of the allocations for the preceding biennium.

(364) The representative of the Director-General said that two factors had emerged in the implementation of the participation programme during the current biennium. The first was positive: the number of countries failing to submit their a posteriori justifications for financial contributions on time had decreased substantially. The second was the considerable increase, in the requests received, in the proportion relating to financial contributions out of a total of US \$11,285,000 committed in August 1985, nearly US \$8,700,000 had been for financial contributions. That figure was to be set against the US \$633,000 used to finance consultants, the US \$969,000 for fellowships, the US \$780,000 for equipment and the mere US \$44,700 for the organization of meetings.

(365) As far as the evaluation of the participation programme was concerned, while the overall amounts allocated for each previous biennium could be found in the C/3 documents, it would be helpful to go further in order to achieve more accurate assessments. The importance that most Member States attached to the evaluation of all aspects of the Organization's activities was bound to lead, in the Director-General's opinion, to the adoption of measures that would admit of an effective evaluation of the results of activities supported by the participation programme. This would only be possible with the active co-operation of all Member States that received support under the participation programme. Consequently, Member States would in future be requested to submit, together with the financial justifications already required, a brief additional report concerning the impact of the projects, their qualitative and quantitative effects, and also a comparison between the results expected and those actually achieved.

Debate

(366) Delegates from 27 Member States took part in the ensuing debate, which provided all speakers with the opportunity to reiterate the importance of their respective countries accorded to the participation programme. The participation programme was described by several delegates as an effective and extremely useful programme that responded to the needs of Member States and had a multiplier effect. Several of the speakers mentioned the achievements that had been made possible through this programme - nationally, for instance, the publication of a National Commission newsletter, as well as the implementation of regional, subregional and interregional activities. The role that the participation programme could play in 'devolution' in the implementation of the Organization's programme was emphasized, as well as the way in which it could be used in the

decentralization process, the onus of which, according to one speaker, should not rest solely on the Regional Offices but also involve Member States and their National Commissions.

(367) In view of this programme's importance, several speakers deplored the cut in resources earmarked for it. Others described the distribution of the participation programme's resources among the major programmes as uneven, and expressed the wish that the distribution should be more balanced. One delegate suggested resorting to other funds to achieve a balance in the programme's resources. Others indicated their preference for an increase in the allocations for particular chapters.

(368) One speaker said that in view of the amount of blocked funds it was important to make optimum use of the funds still available. In one speaker's opinion, it would be acceptable to restrict the cuts in allocations to 25 per cent of the initial estimates.

(369) In their statements other delegates stressed their satisfaction at what they considered to be a significant increase in the appropriations for the participation programme, as announced in paragraph 15504 of document 23 C/5.

(370) Two speakers wished to know what criteria the Secretariat applied in determining the participation appropriations allocated to the various major programmes. Another took the view that the significant factor in that regard was not the distribution of amounts in absolute value, but efforts to achieve an appropriate balance among the major programmes.

(371) Several speakers regretted the length of the procedures for examining and approving requests made under the participation programme. Several of them asked for those procedures to be simplified and rationalized so that the replies could be made in a shorter time. Some delegates expressed appreciation of the Secretariat's efficiency in dealing with the requests.

(372) One delegate stressed the need to find a way of speeding up the receipt of funds by the country concerned when its requests had been approved.

(373) A number of delegates expressed regret at the delay that had occurred this year in sending out the circular letter concerning the participation programme for 1986-1987. On this same point, several speakers urged that the deadline for sending in requests should be extended. The end of December was frequently mentioned as a possibility. A few speakers, however, considered it possible to submit their category I requests before the end of November 1985, as suggested by the acting Assistant Director-General in his introductory statements.

(374) One speaker expressly requested that, whenever the priorities selected by the Director-General for the approval of requests did not correspond to those formulated by the requesting Member State, it should be given an explanation.

(375) Recognizing that an excessive number of requests could overburden the Secretariat, one speaker said that his country would attempt to be more selective when sending in its requests.

(376) Among participation programme activities, several delegates expressed a preference for regional or interregional ventures. One delegate said that priority should be given to requests from developing countries under this programme.

(377) One delegate asked which unit of the restructured Secretariat would have central responsibility for the participation programme.

(378) Referring to the text of the proposed resolution in paragraph 15502 of document 23 C/5 (Volume II), one delegate, while stating that he would not oppose its adoption by the Commission, expressed reservations on behalf of his government, which did not feel that it could apply the provisions set forth in subparagraph 8(e) and (f) of the text, on the grounds that they exceeded the terms of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and that the imposition of new obligations and responsibilities on sovereign States would require the conclusion of a legally binding international agreement rather than the simple adoption of a resolution. The statement made by the delegation of Japan ran as follows:

'It is for all these reasons, Mr Chairman, that we cannot accept subparagraphs (e) and (f) of paragraph 8 of the proposed resolution. However, Mr Chairman, if other members of the Commission should favour the adoption of the proposed resolution incorporating only the modification proposed by the Executive Board, I will not insist on my objection to the subparagraphs I have mentioned. Instead, I would like to ask that the following position of my government shall be clearly recorded and reflected in the report of the Commission:

(i) As regards paragraph 8(e) of the resolution, the Government of Japan will apply the provision of Article III, section 4, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies.

(ii) As regards paragraph 8(f) of the resolution, it will apply the provisions set out in Articles VI and VII of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies in respect of the officials of Unesco and the provisions set out in paragraph 3 of Annex IV of the said Convention to experts of Unesco. As to prospective participants entitled to attend meetings, seminars, conferences and training courses under Unesco regulations and rules held in Japan who are requested to obtain visas or other necessary documents for entry into Japan, the Government of Japan will facilitate the issuance of such visas or documents in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations in force in Japan'.

(379) During the debate, one speaker

asked that a sentence from document 23 C/3, and which seemed to him to be of special relevance to the definition of the principles governing the participation programme, should appear as paragraph 1 of the proposed resolution in paragraph 15502, the remaining paragraphs, in their present form, being re-numbered accordingly, and suggested that the recommendation of the Executive Board on the participation programme as contained in 23 C/6 Add.2 be included in the resolution in paragraph 15502.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(380) Replying to the questions raised during the debate, the acting Assistant Director-General began by explaining, with reference to the delays that sometimes arose in responding to requests, that a complex internal mechanism was essential within the Secretariat if the requests were to be dealt with properly. With special reference to category I requests, he stressed the fact that a rapid decision depended primarily on their being received in good time. While affirming the Secretariat's determination to improve its performance in that respect, he pointed out that during the current biennium, for the first time ever, practically all the accepted requests had been approved during the first year of the biennium.

(381) He also stressed the fact that notification of the approval of one request out of several submitted by a Member State did not necessarily mean that the others had been rejected as such, but that, very frequently, the Secretariat was holding on to them in the hope of finding an alternative source of financing to the funds available under the participation programme. However, realizing that Member States required information on that subject, the Secretariat would henceforth attempt to explain the position in its replies, indicating both the requests that had been directly approved under the participation programme and those that had been held back in the hope of finding possible alternative financing.

(382) The problem of how to deal with requests that had been approved took different forms according to their nature. As regards the dispatch of funds, the Secretariat was at present looking into the possibility of making direct transfers to a bank in the beneficiary country, without necessarily having to go through the Unesco bank in New York, as had so far been the case. When participation took the form of consultant services, Member States themselves could sometimes help the Secretariat to speed up the process of selection by putting forward the names of specialists whom they considered suitable for the mission concerned.

(383) The delay in sending out the circular letter, for which the Secretariat expressed its regrets, was due to the special circumstances prevailing

in 1985, when a large number of meetings had been held within the framework of the Executive Board or the working groups set up by the Director-General. Those meetings had generated a wide variety of documents to which, as the Commission would readily understand, priority had had to be given. These documents, coming on top of those required for the General Conference, had made it impossible for the documentation and printing services to bring out circular letter CL/2977 sooner. For that reason the deadline had been set back. For requests concerning activities to be carried out during the first six months of 1986 which reached Headquarters before the end of November 1985, the acting Assistant Director-General assured members that a decision would be taken before the end of January 1986. Without being able to give so definite a guarantee, the Secretariat would attempt to keep to the same deadlines for requests received up to 31 December 1985.

(384) The representative of the Director-General said that no strict criteria had been drawn up for the proposed breakdown of participation programme funds among the major programmes. Each sector planned those funds on the basis of the requests received during the previous budgetary period and extrapolated on the assumption that they reflected the priorities of Member States. At the end of the day, it was up to the Member States to modify this state of affairs, if they so wished, by submitting requests relating to more diversified activities. In any event, should any sector receive more requests by the end of the period than had initially been foreseen, the Executive Board would be called upon to authorize the necessary transfers.

(385) With regard to the real budgetary sums available for the participation programme, the acting Assistant Director-General recalled the modifications and downgradings to second priority already mentioned in circular letter CL/2977 and in document 23 C/6 Add.

(386) Referring to the disparities between the priorities requested by Member States and those accepted by the Director-General, the representative of the Director-General observed that in view of the number of requests to be processed, calls for clarifications which might be useful to the Secretariat before a decision was taken could not be made in respect of each of them. Recourse was nevertheless often had for that purpose to contacts with permanent delegations, but it was not materially possible to go further than that, and engage in correspondence with governments whenever the technical opinions of the sectors were at variance with priorities formulated by Member States.

(387) As to which unit of the Secretariat would, after the restructuring, be responsible for co-ordinating the participation programme, the acting Assistant Director-General stated that it would

probably be the Bureau of Studies, Action and Co-ordination for Development. While the participation programme did not constitute a form of assistance proper, it was nevertheless important that its management should be duly co-ordinated with activities concerning development, for which that Bureau would be responsible.

(388) Recommendations for Part II.B, Chapter 5: Participation programme:

(a) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan for Part II.B, Chapter 5, Participation programme, document 23 C/5,

paragraphs 15504 to 15507.

(b) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the appropriation of \$10,669,900 under the participation programme (document 23 C/5, para. 15501), taking account of the placing in reserve of a sum of \$9,179,700 representing second priority activities under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds').

(c) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt resolution 15.5 proposed in paragraph 15502 of document 23 C/5, as amended (23 C/Resolution 19).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.10 - CO-OPERATION WITH FOUNDATIONS PURSUING ACTIVITIES
IN UNESCO'S FIELDS OF COMPETENCE

(389) After hearing the Director-General's representative introduce document 23 C/23 on co-operation with foundations, Commission I recommended

that the General Conference adopt the resolution appearing in paragraph 14 of document 23 C/23 (23 C/Resolution 18.5).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 7.1 - REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON CHANGES
IN THE CLASSIFICATION OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

(390) The acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations, introducing the report of the Director-General on changes in the classification of international non-governmental organizations (document 23 C/34), recalled the terms of subparagraph VIII.2 of the Directives concerning Unesco's relations with these organizations, which stated 'the Director-General shall present a concise report on any changes which have taken place, by decision of the Executive Board, in the classification of international organizations admitted to the various categories of relationship with Unesco. This report will also contain the list of organizations which have submitted requests for admission to the different kinds of relations and whose requests have not been accepted.

(391) He also mentioned the provisions of subparagraphs II.2, II.3 and II.5 of the same Directives, which conferred on the Executive Board the power of deciding on the admission of organizations to categories A and B, while the Director-General was empowered to decide on the classification of organizations in category C.

(392) He informed the Commission that at the conclusion of the 121st session of the Executive Board the situation of non-governmental organizations maintaining official relations with Unesco was as follows, in the three categories of relations laid down in the Directives: there were 41 organizations in category A (consultative and associate relations), 236 in category B (information and consultative relations), and 257 in

category C (mutual information relationship), making a total of 534 organizations.

(393) The Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations pointed out that, as certain category A and category B organizations were federative councils grouping together other international associations, Unesco was in fact co-operating with more than 700 international non-governmental organizations.

(394) After thanking the Director-General's representative for his introductory statement, the Chairman gave the floor to a delegate who expressed satisfaction that Unesco was maintaining co-operation relations with a growing number of international non-governmental organizations. However, he recalled that certain organizations were still not observing in a satisfactory manner the resolutions adopted by the General Conference, and in particular resolution 7/01 adopted at its twenty-first session, concerning international non-governmental organizations which maintained relations with Unesco and in which organisms or elements linked with the authorities of Taiwan still participated. He hoped that those organizations would be invited to conform scrupulously to those resolutions.

Recommendation on item 7.1

(395) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the report of the Director-General on changes in the classification of international non-governmental organizations, document 23 C/34 (cf. Annex-Recommendations).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 8.7 - PARTICIPATION BY THE FOLLOWING MEMBER STATES
IN THE REGIONAL ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY THE ORGANIZATION IN ASIA
AND THE PACIFIC: BAHRAIN, DEMOCRATIC YEMEN, IRAQ, JORDAN, KUWAIT, OMAN,
QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND YEMEN

(396) At the invitation of the Chairman, two representatives of the 11 Arab countries that had requested the inclusion of this item on the agenda of the twenty-third session of the General Conference introduced document 23 C/36. They emphasized the significance they attached to the consolidation of the Arab States' participation in regional activities conducted by Unesco in Asia and the Pacific, with a view to increasing exchanges of information and experience between the two regions and strengthening regional and international co-operation. They referred to official contacts on this matter between the delegations of the Arab States concerned and the Member States of the region of Asia and the Pacific.

(397) In the course of the debate, the representatives of 12 Member States of the region of Asia and the Pacific took the floor. They spoke of the value such co-operation would have, and said that it would be in the interest both of the Arab States and of the States of Asia. It would help to enhance the complementarity between the cultures of the two regions and to strengthen relations between countries at the national, regional and international levels. Several speakers expressed their satisfaction with the contacts that had already been made to this end between the two groups of countries involved. All the speakers supported the initiative. However, some questions were raised regarding the forms the co-operation would take, and its practical and financial implications, especially as regards translation, documentation and interpretation.

(398) One speaker, while remarking on the general agreement of principle emerging from the discussion, suggested that the Commission defer examination of this item to the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference, in order to allow the Arab countries and the Asian countries to negotiate and define more clearly the kinds of joint activities that were of interest to the Arab States and the countries of Asia and the Pacific. This would also give the Secretariat time to

estimate the cost of such participation. Several other speakers, including representatives of the Arab countries involved, expressed agreement with this approach.

(399) In his reply to questions raised in the course of the debate by certain delegations concerning any similar proposals that might have been formulated earlier by other groups of Member States, the acting Assistant Director-General for Co-operation for Development and External Relations emphasized that the proposal was the first of its kind, in that it concerned a group of States collectively rather than an individual State, as had happened in the past, wishing to participate in the Organization's activities in two regions at once. He said also that the Secretariat had always encouraged co-operation between Member States, at sub-regional, regional and international levels. He placed himself at the service of the parties concerned in respect of any information or support they might wish him to provide for the establishment of that co-operation.

(400) At the end of the discussion, having said that although there was complete agreement in principle on the proposal that the 11 Arab countries concerned should participate in the regional activities of Asia, a number of practical questions and organizational matters would need to be analysed in depth, the Chairman proposed that that Commission recommend the General Conference to defer a decision on this item to its next session, on the understanding that the parties concerned would, in the meantime, and with the help of the Secretariat if necessary, carry out a detailed feasibility study. The Commission approved this proposal without a vote.

(401) Recommendation. The Commission recommended that the General Conference defer a decision on this question to its twenty-fourth session, on the understanding that the parties concerned would, with the assistance of the Secretariat if necessary, carry out a feasibility study (23 C/Resolution 50).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 21 -
PART II.B, CHAPTER 1: COPYRIGHT

(402) Commission I devoted part of its 16th and 17th meetings to consideration of discussion unit 21, concerning Part II.B, 1 (Copyright) of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, as well as to items 6.7 and 6.8 of its agenda.

(403) In his introductory statement, the Chairman of the Commission underlined the important role assigned by Unesco's Constitution to copyright, which was the

main driving force behind any increase in the intellectual output of individual States. He also spelled out the Commission's terms of reference: namely, to examine the proposals contained in paragraphs 15102 to 15121 of document 23 C/5 and document 23 C/DR.186 submitted by Colombia; and to consider the desirability of adopting an international instrument on the safeguarding of folklore (23 C/32) and international regu-

lations concerning the safeguarding of works in the public domain (23 C/33).

(404) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support Sector, representing the Director-General, then introduced the programme on copyright, stressing that Unesco's work in the field of copyright was mainly concerned with seeking and implementing ways of stimulating intellectual and artistic creation in order to foster the development of the cultural and artistic heritage of Member States and hence of mankind as a whole. The protection of works and the guarantees offered to authors, from the point of view of both their moral interests and their material well-being, were essential to promoting creativity. The representative of the Director-General went on to point out that Unesco, if it were to achieve this purpose, had to pay great attention to the new standards emerging in this field, which arouse principally from the use of new technologies. In addition, special emphasis should be given to the development of knowledge of copyright since respect for copyright depended on such knowledge.

(405) The representative of the Director-General then described the main lines of emphasis of the draft programme on copyright. He drew attention to the fact that they were a continuation of previous efforts to adapt copyright and reflected a constant concern to remain at the service of Member States, giving priority as far as budgetary resources permitted - although they were more limited now than before - to knowledge and training in the field of copyright. Innovations included a new approach to the most serious problems, such as private copying, piracy, computer programmes and direct broadcasting by communication satellite.

Debate

(406) In the course of the ensuing debate, the representatives of 28 Member States and the representative of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC) made statements.

(407) All the delegates expressed agreement with the proposed resolution in paragraph 15102 and generally supported the draft programme and budget for the Division of Copyright set forth in paragraphs 15103 to 15121, laying special emphasis on the importance of the activities relating to training and information for developing countries. Furthermore, they approved the criteria which had been applied in effecting budgetary reductions of over 25 per cent in relation to the initial estimates in the chapter on copyright (reduction in the number of languages used for meetings of governmental experts and merging of meetings).

(408) Some delegates nevertheless expressed concern, from the budgetary standpoint, regarding the number of meetings provided for in Section III (paragraph 15115).

(409) One delegate suggested reducing the activities contained in Section III (para. 15115) and also those concerning the publications and the documentation services relating to copyright (para. 15111), and more particularly reducing the number of issues of the 'Copyright Bulletin'.

(410) Several delegates raised the question of efforts to eradicate piracy of intellectual works; this problem was linked by some speakers to technological progress. They expressed the wish that greater importance be attributed to this activity in the programme of the Division of Copyright, and wondered whether Unesco was aware of the danger it constituted for intellectual creativity and to what extent the Organization was prepared to fight it.

(411) One delegate remarked that the concept of copyright had evolved. He said that new methods of reprography and the development of communication techniques had to be taken into account.

(412) One delegate said that the question of piracy should be of concern to Unesco since the illicit reproduction of intellectual works was against authors' moral and material interests and was consequently an obstacle to intellectual creativity. He reminded the Commission that a survey on the subject had been carried out among Member States by the Secretariat, and wondered why the findings had not yet been published. He also stressed the importance of continuing close collaboration with WIPO in all Unesco's copyright activities and expressed the hope that this would not be harmed by the reductions proposed in 23 C/6 Add.

(413) One delegate stressed the importance of the problem of access by disabled people to printed and audio-visual materials, and hoped that Unesco would continue and perhaps develop its work in that field.

(414) Several delegates mentioned the problem of training in connection with copyright, and expressed their concern regarding the prospects of substantial reductions in this part of the programme (nearly 40 per cent of the allocations provided for in paras 15112 to 15114; Training; Development of Infrastructures; Decentralization of Unesco's Activities Relating to Copyright).

(415) Some delegates felt that if the training programme were curtailed in this way, it would not be able to meet the growing needs of the developing countries, which were not yet parties to the international conventions and who so far possessed no copyright legislation.

(416) Two delegations were in favour of holding regional seminars and courses in the countries themselves, thereby making a substantial budgetary saving and guaranteeing wider participation at such meetings.

(417) With regard to the amendment to the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 proposed by Colombia and dated 4 October 1985, several members of the Commission expressed great interest in

the organization of a world congress on copyright education and information, which might be held in connection with the celebration of the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Copyright Convention.

(418) Some members of the Commission regarded that activity as being of the utmost importance, in view of Unesco's specifically educational mission, and stressed the importance that their countries accorded to copyright education and to the training of personnel in the developing and developed countries alike.

(419) At the conclusion of the Commission's discussion on that agenda item, the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support replied to the observations made by the members of the Commission. He pointed out, first of all, that with regard to the efforts to eradicate piracy of intellectual works, Unesco's action had been given concrete form in three specific activities: (i) encouraging those States that were not yet parties to the convention on copyright and neighbouring rights to accede to them; (ii) carrying out a survey among Member States, with a view to publication of its findings, on the phenomenon of piracy and the measures that those States had adopted in order to combat it; (iii) the Organization of a series of meetings with a view to the adaptation of standards to contemporary technical revolutions and measures to counter the unauthorized reproduction and circulation of works (para. 15115).

(420) The representative of the Director-General also emphasized the importance of Unesco's training activity, particularly in favour of the developing countries. He pointed out that the lectures and statements delivered at those meetings were not only helpful to the participants in the seminars but were also used as substantive articles for the Copyright Bulletin and consequently circulated among all Member States.

(421) As regards reducing the number

of meetings, he pointed out that, since they were virtually always joint meetings with WIPO, it would be necessary to reach agreement on that subject with that organization, and said that discussions were already under way. Also, because they were joint intergovernmental meetings, the Secretariat proposed to consider them as belonging to no specific category, which would make it possible to reduce costs, particularly interpreting costs, considerably.

(422) On the subject of draft resolution 186 (Colombia) which the Committee had endorsed, he gave an assurance that extra expenses would be found in the allocations already assigned for activities of that kind.

(423) Recommendations on unit 21:

(a) The Commission recommended to the General Conference that it take note of the work plan for Part II.B, 1, Copyright, in paragraphs 15103 to 15119 of document 23 C/5.

(b) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve, for Chapter 1 of Part II.B, Copyright, appropriations amounting to \$1,601,400 under the regular programme, after placing in reserve a sum of \$539,200 representing second priority activities (one asterisk) under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds'), it being understood that the total of those appropriations could be subject to modification in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds to be allocated to that major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and any other adjustment decided on by the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(c) The Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt resolution 15.1 proposed in paragraph 15102 of document 23 C/5 (23 C/Resolution 15.1).

(d) The Commission also decided to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt 23 C/DR.186 (23 C/Resolution 15.2).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 6.7 - DESIRABILITY OF ADOPTING A GENERAL INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON THE SAFEGUARDING OF FOLKLORE

(424) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support presented document 23 C/32 on the historical background to the question and the problems emerging from the study submitted by the Director-General, following which, 17 members of the Commission took the floor.

(425) In general, the delegates speaking on this item were unanimous in emphasizing the need for action to safeguard folklore and expressed their agreement with this project's objectives. The great majority of them approved the plan for standard-setting action, preferably not mandatory, at the international level.

(426) Several delegates stressed the importance of preserving the elements of the cultural identity of peoples and the

necessity of endeavouring to protect works of folklore from misuse and any kind of distortion.

(427) One delegate said that the protection of folklore was not a matter for the Division of Copyright but one for the Culture Sector.

(428) Several representatives of Member States said that the protection of folklore should not be considered from the point of view of copyright, mainly because works of folklore were to be considered as in the public domain, and that it was the responsibility of each State to protect them through its national legislation. One delegate expressed his preference for co-operation between States as far as the safeguarding of folklore was concerned.

(429) A few delegates, while assert-

ing the need to undertake actions for the preservation of folklore, drew attention to the fact that the work preparatory to the elaboration of an international instrument in this field had not yet been completed, in that the questions of definition, identification, conservation and preservation had still not been clarified.

(430) It was pointed out by two members of the Commission that international regulation might be detrimental to the freedom of creation and that insistence on a fee, or even on prior permission, for the use of a work of folklore could hamper the cultural development of Member States and in so doing paralyse the enlargement of folklore, since folklore was a living phenomenon which evolved over time.

(431) Some delegates considered that each State could promulgate legislation in this field, based on model provisions which the Unesco Secretariat would prepare for Member States interested in such protection.

(432) One member of the Commission expressed the view that consideration should be given to the Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of

Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations, which could be applicable in this case, at least where the services of performers were concerned.

(433) Lastly, one member of the Commission stressed the need for a clear statement of the chosen objective, which was to safeguard folklore from any kind of distortion so as to preserve it and not to protect it as a work subject to copyright.

(434) At the end of the discussion, the Commission, while considering that it was premature at that stage to prepare a draft international instrument, recommended that the General Conference should decide that the question of the safeguarding of folklore might, at a later stage, be the subject of a recommendation to Member States and that this recommendation should be taken into consideration during the discussion of that question by a special committee of governmental experts meeting for that purpose.

(435) Recommendation:

The Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution proposed in paragraph 16 of document 23 C/32 (23 C/Resolution 15.3).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 6.8 - DESIRABILITY OF ADOPTING AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON THE PROTECTION OF WORKS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

(436) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support presented document 23 C/33 on the 'Desirability of adopting international regulations concerning the safeguarding of works in the public domain'. He described the origin of the work, begun in 1973 on the initiative of Mr Paulo de Berredo Carneiro, then a member of the Executive Board. He stressed that the question being examined did not concern the protection of the work from the commercial point of view but sought to safeguard the moral and intellectual integrity of works no longer protected by copyright.

(437) Nineteen members of the Commission took the floor during the discussion to endorse the concern that some protection was needed for works in the public domain.

(438) Stressing the reference of this activity to the protection of the cultural heritage, two members of the Commission said that it should be conducted under the responsibility of the Culture Sector and not under that of the Division of Copyright.

(439) A large number of delegates said that they were against the adoption of an international instrument in this field, considering other solutions possible, such as the adoption of appropriate laws which would protect works in the public domain against distortion. In their opinion, it was a matter for national legislators and the objective should be attainable by having the Unesco Secretariat prepare model legislation for their use.

(440) Several members of the Commission said that some legislation on copyright covered works in the public domain, protecting their identity and moral aspects. One of them said that in his country, moral rights were perpetual and hence automatically ensured regard for the integrity of works in the public domain.

(441) Two members of the Commission wondered whether an international instrument conferring on the State the power to supervise the use of works in the public domain might not open the door to a certain amount of censorship of works of the mind.

(442) On the other hand, several members of the Commission unreservedly supported the idea of adopting international regulations in the form of a recommendation, particularly in view of the abusive and increasingly frequent adaptations of works in the public domain.

(443) In this regard, one delegate stressed the fact that the consumer should have the right not to be deceived regarding the nature of a work or the identity of its author. The same delegate spoke of the duties of authors and the importance of the right to truth.

(444) One member of the Commission said that in his country, all forms of adaptation of works in the public domain were subject to the approval of the relevant public authority and in some cases to the approval of the national writers' union.

(445) Lastly, several members of the Commission, whatever their attitude to

the establishment of international regulations in this respect, were of the view that efforts should continue in order to elucidate certain matters still further. To this end, it was suggested that the studies already carried out on the subject by Unesco should be made available to the States concerned and a new survey undertaken among Member States to seek pragmatic and practical solutions, initially at the national level.

(446) At the close of the debate, the members of the Commission expressed the view that the Secretariat should continue its work on the safeguarding of works in the public domain on the basis of what

had already been achieved and should make such achievements available to Member States, it being understood that the General Conference would reconsider the whole matter at its twenty-fourth session (1987).

(447) Recommendation:

The Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference that it request the Secretariat to continue its work on the safeguarding of works in the public domain on the basis of the results already achieved, it being understood that the General Conference would reconsider the whole matter at its twenty-fourth session (1987) (23 C/Resolution 15.4).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 22 - PART II.B, CHAPTER 2: STATISTICS, AND OF ITEM 6.4 - DRAFT REVISED RECOMMENDATION CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION OF STATISTICS RELATING TO BOOK PRODUCTION AND PERIODICALS

(448) The representative of the Director-General presented the activities proposed for the 1986-1987 biennium and the draft revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals. He pointed out that the decision to revise the 1964 Recommendation on standardization had been the subject of resolution 15.3 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session in 1983.

Debate

(449) The representatives of eight Member States took the floor during the ensuing discussion. All those who spoke on this item referred to the immense services rendered by Unesco in the field of statistics and to the quality of the Organization's documentation in this area.

(450) Several delegates spoke in support of the proposed programme. Some speakers mentioned their countries' close collaboration with the Office of Statistics in carrying out its programme, which they considered extremely useful both in meeting the needs of Member States themselves and in ensuring the validity of quantitative international comparison of data in the fields covered by Unesco.

(451) Some of the activities undertaken in the past and continued in the programme for the forthcoming biennium were accorded particular attention by the speakers, especially the training of statistics personnel in developing Member States so as to strengthen their infrastructure and the development of the Unesco Framework for Cultural Statistics (FCS).

(452) One delegate mentioned the training in statistics received in recent years by a large number of education personnel in his country (over 100) and commended the excellent contribution made by Unesco specialists as well as by Sweden, whose extra-budgetary funds enabled this programme to be carried out. The same delegate hoped that additional training

would be provided in the future to complete the work undertaken and enable computers to be used as a statistical tool.

(453) Another delegate spoke of the useful work done by Unesco in standardizing statistics and mentioned the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), which was applied by his country, and the Recommendation concerning international standardization of statistics on radio and television, adopted in 1976, which had enabled his country to develop a system of classification and accounts in these fields.

(454) Another delegate commended the work done by Unesco to standardize statistics which, while making international comparability possible, developed the awareness of the political and planning authorities concerned with such statistics and provided them with assistance. He mentioned the work done to refine statistical methods, international exchanges of experience, the development of indicators and the Framework for Cultural Statistics, where national efforts had been supported in exemplary fashion by those responsible for statistics in Unesco. He hoped that the Office's publications would include more commentaries to accompany statistical data. He also hoped that Unesco would, so far as possible, make greater efforts as regards methods and the development of indicators.

(455) Another delegate congratulated the Office of Statistics through its Director for the excellent work done in connection with the Unesco Framework for Cultural Statistics in which his country had been collaborating for many years.

(456) Another delegate welcomed the strengthening of co-operation between Unesco and the other organizations of the United Nations system during the next biennium. He wished to see more use made of specialists from his country in connection with the assistance that Unesco proposed to provide to developing countries under its statistics programme. He also expressed the hope that official languages other than the working

languages of the Secretariat would be used in questionnaires, the Unesco Statistical Yearbook and other statistical publications.

(457) One delegate, while expressing his agreement with the programme in general, regretted that the proposed activities were not ranked by order of priority. In his view, priority should be given to Unesco's Statistical Data Bank and Statistical Documentation Centre, while lower priority should be assigned to the collection of data and their analysis and to cultural statistics, since these addressed different socio-cultural systems. He noted the conformity of the Unesco Guide to the Collection of Statistics on Science and Technology with the OECD FRASCATI Manual.

(458) Some delegates spoke about the draft revised Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Statistics relating to Book Production and Periodicals (23 C/29). They remarked on the objective way in which their comments on the project in response to a consultation of Member States had been reflected in the final version of the draft. One delegate, while noting that the revised Recommendation was an improvement on the Recommendation it was intended to replace, said that his country was unable to provide statistics on the number of copies of published titles and on the publishing houses whose main business activity was not the publication of periodicals. Another delegate suggested amending one of the clauses of the Recommendation so that it would be more applicable to the situation of his country.

(459) In reply to the comments and questions raised during the discussion, the Deputy Director-General thanked the delegates for their praise and requested the Director of the Office of Statistics to reply to specific points made. The Director of the Office of Statistics, after also thanking the delegates, said that this work was the result of effective collaboration between Member States and the Office, as one of the delegates had pointed out. He then replied to the delegate who had referred to the lack of

priority ranking in activities of the programme of the Office of Statistics. The effectiveness of the Data Bank and the Documentation Centre, he said, depended on the collection of statistical data and was thus a sequel to data collection, which could not, therefore, justifiably be assigned lower priority. In conclusion, the Director of the Office said that the final version of the draft revised Recommendation had taken into consideration all the observations made by specialists in Member States. Since the amendment proposed by a single delegate was likely to upset the balance struck in response to a concern for universality, he suggested that the Member State concerned should note its divergence on this point of the Recommendation - which had been widely supported - in its reply to future questionnaires, at which point it would be free to use the classification it wished.

(460) In response to the suggestion that an additional language be used for Unesco's statistical questionnaires, the Director of the Office said that it would be possible to meet this request initially in a limited number of questionnaires. A greater effort would be made to publish the documents of the Office of Statistics in that language.

(461) Recommendations:

(a) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plan contained in paragraphs 15203-15220 of document 23 C/5.

(b) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference approve the budgetary provisions totalling \$4,422,800 contained in paragraph 15201 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve a sum of \$775,000 corresponding to second priority items.

(c) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt resolution 15.2 proposed in paragraph 15202 of document 23 C/5 (23 C/Resolution 16).

(d) The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt the revised draft recommendation contained in Annex II of document 23 C/9 (23 C/Resolutions, Annex I).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 23 - PART II.B, CHAPTER 3:
UNESCO COURIER AND PERIODICALS

(462) At its fourteenth and fifteenth meetings, Commission I considered discussion unit 23, Part II.B, 3, Unesco Courier and Periodicals. The representative of the Director-General explained the reasons for the establishment of the Courier and Periodicals Division: an improved structure for the internal production services, saving of time and savings on production costs. He then described the situation of the Courier: 32 editions, including four Headquarters editions (in Arabic, English, French, Spanish) and four quarterly Braille

editions (English, French, Korean, Spanish).

Debate

(463) Twenty-three delegates spoke during the ensuing discussion. All the delegations were pleased with the quality of the Courier. They described the Courier as the best vehicle for the Organization's image and as a source of information which was much appreciated, particularly among teachers and students.

(464) All the delegations protested

against the cuts in subventions for the non-Headquarters editions of the Courier as contrary to the policy of decentralization and dangerous for Unesco's image in the world.

(465) Several delegates said that they would like to see the time taken to transmit documents for the printing of non-Headquarters editions shortened to the greatest possible extent.

(466) Four delegates asked that consultations be organized more frequently between the central editorial office and their counterparts away from Headquarters (in order to select themes and process articles). These delegates stressed the importance of preparation for these consultations.

(467) One delegate suggested that the Member States concerned should pay the travel costs of their own editors so that the twice-yearly meeting of editors could be maintained.

(468) The speakers who addressed the subject of establishment of the Courier and Periodicals Division were in favour of that measure, but one delegate asked for clarification and expressed reservations: in his view, the Courier was different from the other journals, which were specialized, and there was a risk of a duplication of effort with the Unesco Press. Several delegates said that they would like to see an assessment of the activity and results of the Division carried out for the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference.

(469) In giving his view of the establishment of the Courier and Periodicals Division one delegate said that he would like to see the Division given all the authority it needed to perform its task successfully. The same delegate asked for a reduction in the number of journals in the Publications Plan: he supported the appeal for co-publishing and said that he would like to have details of the project for co-publication in French of paperbacks on themes from the Courier.

(470) One delegate emphasized that the non-Headquarters editions were as important as the Headquarters editions. He considered that co-ordination of the publication dates of all editions was an essential measure.

(471) Another delegate expressed regret at the distortion of reality in some articles of the Courier. The same speaker added that this practice was likely to offend the susceptibilities of peoples.

(472) One delegate, speaking of the circulation of the Courier, considered that the present price per issue was too high for readers in his country and that that factor constituted an obstacle to its circulation.

(473) Another delegate proposed the publication of an edition in Pushtu, a language spoken in Afghanistan and in some neighbouring countries. The same delegate stated that his country was prepared to distribute an edition of the Courier in that language.

(474) One delegate wanted to see the

extension of co-operation between the editors of the Courier and National Commissions and other national bodies, a proposal which was reiterated five times by other speakers. The delegate supported the idea of the establishment of an International Courier Prize as constituting an excellent initiative.

(475) Another delegate suggested strengthening collaboration between the Courier and Periodicals Division and the programme sectors. He considered that the programmes were in a position to supply copy to the editorial office of the Courier.

(476) Five delegates wanted clarification regarding the introduction of pages of advertising in the Headquarters editions of the Courier. They considered that the image of the Organization could suffer from such an innovation. Three speakers expressed reservations on this matter. Another supported the idea, provided that adequate safeguards were developed.

(477) With reference to the financing of non-Headquarters editions, one delegate suggested reducing either the number of issues of the Courier appearing each year or the number of staff posts. The same speaker, along with other delegates, expressed regret at the dropping of the new Braille edition.

(478) Another delegate asserted that non-Headquarters editions could not survive without subventions. It was also pointed out that the Courier was not a commercial magazine. A number of speakers emphasized the importance of the geo-cultural distribution of authors, which in their view was not equitable.

(479) One delegate expressed regret at the lowering of the scientific level of the journal, the poor choice of themes and the priority given to issues on culture. The same delegate deplored the cancelling of the January 1986 issue of the Courier devoted to the International Year of Peace.

(480) One delegate asked that subventions for the non-Headquarters editions be increased. Another expressed regret at the delay in delivery of the Courier in various countries, such as Australia (four to five months).

(481) One delegate expressed regret that the Arabic edition was still published at Headquarters. He said that he would like to see the National Centre for Unesco Publications in Cairo take charge of this edition. He mentioned the Arabic edition of the Courier published in Cairo with the financial contribution of Unesco. He stressed the importance of the role of Unesco in this field and thanked the representative of the Director-General who had ensured the continuity of Unesco's contribution.

(482) Several delegates stressed the importance of publication of the Courier in African languages. These delegates drew attention to the consequences which the reductions would have on the edition in Kiswahili and the new edition in Hausa and requested the extension of the publication of the Courier to other African

languages of major subregional importance.

(483) Lastly, five delegates supported draft resolution 23 C/DR.188 submitted by five Member States.

(484) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General provided clarification concerning the problems that might result from a reduction in the number of annual issues of the Courier. He pointed out that subscriptions, some of which were for two years, made such a reduction practically impossible. He also stated that a reduction in the number of staff posts would involve the elimination of services and that all the items in the Courier's budget had been cut back, except the item for printing costs which had already been severely reduced.

(485) The representative of the Director-General then said that the Russian and Chinese editions would be financed by subventions from the Publications Fund (Unesco official languages). Referring to a request for a new edition, he said that the National Commission concerned would be informed on the procedure to be followed.

(486) Replying to some criticisms that had been expressed, he explained that the Courier constantly endeavoured to ensure both the strict observance of professional ethics and a satisfactory geographical distribution of authors. He provided figures for the increase in the number of authors from developing countries in the past two years: Africa from 9.5 per cent to 15 per cent, Asia from 9 per cent to 23.5 per cent, Latin America and the Caribbean from 5.9 per cent to 16 per cent and the Arab States from 3.3 per cent to 5 per cent.

(487) The representative of the Director-General then informed the Commission that the January 1986 issue of the Courier on peace had not been cancelled but had been postponed until mid-1986 so as to be able to report on events that were to take place at the beginning of 1986.

(488) Replying to another delegate, he gave explanations on the publication of a paperback collection. He said that that collection which was intended to take up subjects covered by the Courier, would not be in competition with the latter and would consist of anthologies of texts published over the years.

(489) On the subject of collaboration with National Commissions, the representative of the Director-General observed that sales depended on how active those Commissions were in distributing the Courier. He mentioned the example of Cuba, which alone sold half of the Spanish edition.

(490) The representative of the Director-General gave detailed information on the introduction of advertisements in the Courier. The various review and approval procedures preceding the publication of an advertisement were, he said, guarantees of compliance with the standards required for the Organization's activities.

(491) The representative of the

Director-General then pointed out that the cost of the Courier was already very low and that it was sold at a loss. In the circumstances, he thought it would be difficult to consider establishing different prices in the various countries.

(492) He then suggested that the National Commissions of countries with non-convertible currencies should use Unesco Coupons to purchase issues of the Courier.

(493) He went on to give explanations on the technical functioning of the Courier and Periodicals Division (copy-preparers for specialized reviews, liaison between the editorial and marketing services, etc.).

(494) With regard to the organization of consultations between editorial offices at Headquarters and away from Headquarters, and with National Commissions, he said that every effort would be made to strengthen them.

(495) He said that it would, however, be difficult, for technical reasons, to ensure that all editions were published simultaneously.

(496) After the reply by the representative of the Director-General, the Commission decided to leave it to the working group (Brazil, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Denmark, Egypt, German Democratic Republic, India, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand and Trinidad and Tobago) to examine the question of cuts in subventions to non-Headquarters editions.

(497) Working group:

Having considered a table showing sales (by number of copies) for all editions, placed at its disposal by the Secretariat, the working group decided to recommend to the Commission that a sum of \$368,000 should be allocated for non-Headquarters editions, comprising \$200,000 to be provided out of the participation programme and \$168,000 to be requested from the Director-General out of the Courier's regular budget.

(498) The Commission recommended that draft resolution 23 C/DR.106 be submitted to the General Conference with deletion of the reference to an additional edition in an African language. It also adopted draft resolution 23 C/DR.188, amending paragraph 2 as follows: 'Requests the Director-General to take the necessary measures so that the non-Headquarters editions can be published simultaneously with the Headquarters editions'.

(499) An amendment submitted by one delegate proposed that the sum recommended by the working group be increased from \$368,000 to \$416,000: \$200,000 from the participation programme and \$216,000 from the Courier or PRS budget, or from extra-budgetary funds. It was agreed that possible necessary reductions in subventions to non-Headquarters editions should only be made after negotiations with the individual countries affected.

(500) The working group's recommendations were adopted by the Commission, with the proposed amendment. It was agreed, at the request of one delegate,

that the amendment in question did not affect the priority accorded by the working group to developing countries' editions in the distribution of the total sum of \$416,000 which was sufficient to bring it as close as possible to the present level of subventions, on the basis of the actual circulation of each edition, and was thus added to the subventions provided for in the Draft 23 C/5 and maintained in document 23 C/6 Add.

(501) Recommendations:

(a) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plan in Part II.B, Chapter 3, Unesco Courier and Periodicals, paragraphs 15303-15314 of document 23 C/5.

(b) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve, for Chapter 3 - Unesco Courier and Periodicals - under the regular programme (para. 15301 of document 23 C/5), appropriations of \$4,351,800 after placing in reserve a sum of \$1,506,100 representing second priority activities (one asterisk) under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds').

(c) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 15.3 as amended by 23 C/DR.188 (23 C/Resolution 17.1).

(d) The Commission also decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.106 as amended (23 C/Resolution 17.2).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 26 - PART III,
CHAPTER 2: OFFICE OF THE UNESCO PRESS

(502) Introducing the chapter, the representative of the Director-General remarked that it had been subject to major cutbacks since, in addition to the ten posts scheduled to be abolished in document 23 C/5, document 23 C/6 Add. foresaw the abolition of 32 other posts and a reduction of \$185,500 in the operating funds of the Office. In addition to those measures, an effort had been made to improve the position of the Publications Fund through a reduction of \$672,000 in the wage bill supported from the Fund, achieved by abolishing 13 posts. He then briefly discussed the option in paragraphs 16 and 28 of document 122 EX/19, adopted by the Executive Board. He further stated that decentralization would be stepped up by calling on the collaboration of the Member States and the structures which they accommodated, and gradually detaching certain staff from Headquarters. In conclusion, he remarked that, on the basis of the lines of emphasis defined in the second option in document 122 EX/19, the next biennium would be a test period and a period of renewal for the Office.

Debate

(503) Seven speakers took part in the debate which followed. They all approved the proposals of the Secretariat with only minor differences of emphasis. They were pleased that option B, chosen by the Executive Board, aimed to transform the Office of the Unesco Press into a regular academic publishing house, while maintaining the balance between the idea of economic viability and the mission of Unesco. They were also satisfied with the emphasis placed on improving the quality of manuscripts and on the move to make co-publishing the rule. Several speakers emphasized that a clear distinction should be made between publications and documents. Two speakers stated that a close link should be maintained between the Office of the Unesco Press and the Division of the Unesco Courier and Periodicals.

(504) One speaker, referring to the report by the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit, wanted to remove the ambiguity regarding the observations made about Unesco publications, pointing out that the criticism applied to all the publications of the United Nations system. He nevertheless wanted the quality of manuscripts to be improved and requested that favourable consideration be given to manuscripts of an original nature.

(505) One speaker pointed out that the Organization was not alone in experiencing problems in the area of publications, and that all publishers were currently experiencing the same difficulties.

(506) One delegate expressed his satisfaction at the appointment of a real professional as Director of the Office, but stressed the need to give him the necessary responsibilities to carry out his task. He regretted the lack of financial information in the publication plan and wanted its presentation to be made clearer and more transparent. He was not surprised that the titles relating to the Programme Support Sector carried no indication of priority. Finally, he was concerned to know whether the staff paid from the Publications Fund still came under publications.

(507) One speaker said that his country had had some initial doubts about option B in document 122 EX/19, and stated that the possibility of accepting manuscripts from the outside did not seem to him to be a good idea. At all events, it was necessary to act with extreme caution and ensure that the texts selected were in accordance with the aims and the mission of the Organization. He also stated that he supported draft resolutions DR.207 and DR.251.

(508) One speaker remarked that the Secretariat should also ensure that its efforts were directed towards the improvement of distribution and promotion.

(509) Another speaker stated that he supported draft resolution DR.251 and

that his delegation would review DR.207 to take account of the note by the Director-General.

(510) After stressing that the Spanish language should be accorded its due place in the Secretariat, a speaker belonging to one of the delegations co-sponsoring DR.205 announced its agreement with the explanatory note by the Director-General.

(511) One delegate expressed satisfaction with the results of the co-operation between the Office of the Unesco Press and his country, but wished it to be further strengthened. He wanted there to be consultations with the Secretariat on that matter and appealed for Unesco to continue providing financial assistance for the Chinese edition of the General History of Africa.

(512) One delegate hoped that Unesco publications would be more independent in nature. The same delegate noted that the choice of certain subjects or expressions had given rise to misunderstandings. He cited by way of example the use of the term 'Arab Gulf', which he considered inappropriate. Referring to certain sources, he said that the term 'Persian Gulf' was the one recognized by the United Nations.

(513) Another delegate, speaking on the same question said that all the Arab countries and intellectual circles used the term 'Arab Gulf'. The same speaker regretted that one delegation wished to impose its will, paying no regard to all the interests at stake in the region. He described that attitude as hegemonist.

(514) After thanking the speakers for the support expressed for the work plan and the new lines of emphasis in document 122 EX/19, the representative of the Director-General replied to certain questions raised in the debate. He pointed out that it would not be easy to improve promotion and distribution, because of financial constraints. He stated that, in addition to its permanent membership, the Reading Committee had a composition which varied in accordance with the subject involved. With reference to the acceptance of manuscripts from outside, he stated that these should be sent to the Secretariat through the National Commissions, and he gave an assurance that the Secretariat had taken note of the observations made in that connection. On the subject of the Chinese edition of the General History of Africa,

he stated that, while it was gratifying that China was among the first countries to have translated and published that work, the provision of financial aid would normally be a matter for the Culture Sector, and the situation of the Publications Fund did not enable it to take over that role. He suggested that the delegation consult the Director of Publications on that matter. With regard to the differing views advanced by two speakers on the name of a Gulf, the Director-General's representative said that the Office of the Unesco Press was not qualified to pronounce on the matter. He gave an assurance that the Secretariat would take care to avoid the use of terms and titles that did not accord with the norms and practices of the United Nations and that might embarrass or offend a Member State. The Chairman then heard two speakers on the same subject and closed the debate.

(515) Following the observations of the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support on the note by the Director-General relating to DR.205, which had been submitted by a number of Spanish-speaking States, one of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution stated that the idea behind the preparation of that text was to draw the attention of the Director-General to the need to bear in mind the importance of the Spanish language in the execution of the publications policy; in the light of the note by the Director-General, the co-sponsors were willing to withdraw the draft resolution as long as their concerns were reflected in the report of the Commission.

(516) Recommendations:

(a) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt the draft resolutions on Chapter 2 of Part III (23 C/DR.207 and 251) as amended (23 C/Resolutions 20.1 and 20.2).

(b) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan and the staff table relating to Chapter 2 of Part III, paragraphs 15802 to 15822 of document 23 C/5.

(c) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the budgetary provision of \$3,505,400 contained in paragraph 15801 of document 23 C/5 after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget ('Blocked Funds') a sum of \$2,444,500 corresponding to second priority activities.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 27 - PART III, CHAPTER 3:
OFFICE OF CONFERENCES, LANGUAGES AND DOCUMENTS

(517) Turning to Chapter 3 of Part III, dealing with the budget of the Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents, the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support recalled the basic functions of the Office and gave an account of the procedures adopted initially in document 23 C/5 to enable it to accomplish its

tasks despite an overall reduction in funds of 2 per cent: a more than proportional reduction in permanent staff costs and an increase in appropriations for temporary assistance. The same procedure, but on a much more extensive scale, had been followed for the new adjustments recommended by the Executive Board, as presented in document 23 C/6

Add. In all, for a 15.18 per cent reduction in the budget the permanent staff of the Office would be reduced by 83½ posts (as against 12 in 23 C/5), and its funds for temporary assistance would be increased by \$1 million over the initial draft budget.

(518) Describing the proposals for the abolition of posts, the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support said that they would have a much greater impact on those language sections that were easily able to recruit temporary staff at Headquarters (the English, Spanish and French Translation Sections) than on those (the Chinese, Arabic and Russian Sections) that were obliged to recruit abroad and at greater expense. Expressed in terms of production capacity, the abolition of posts taken as a whole, and partially offset by the increase in temporary assistance funding, would entail a reduction in capacity as compared with the preceding biennium, of 31,000 standard pages of translation, 19,000 pages of composition, and 35,000,000 printed pages.

(519) Lastly, the Assistant Director-General emphasized that the resulting limitations would be all the more severe in that there was not necessarily any proportion between the reduction in programme activities and the number of conferences and meetings, and the reduction in the Office's resources. The effort that had already been requested at Secretariat level to reduce the volume of documentation would have to be stepped up, but it would still not be enough unless there were at the same time an appreciable reduction in the documentation for the governing bodies. If that were not the case, the Office would find itself faced with very serious difficulties.

(520) In the course of the debate, speakers on this chapter congratulated the Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents on the quality of its work and on its readiness to meet demands on it, one member of the Commission pointing out that even requests that went beyond what was reasonable were met. They asked the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support to express their gratitude to the staff of the Office.

(521) One member of the Commission hoped that the Office's work-load might be lightened as far as possible by better and simpler drafting, which would also improve Unesco's image.

(522) Another delegate was concerned about the criteria adopted for abolishing posts in the language sections, and hoped that the composition equipment in Chinese would shortly be modernized.

(523) On one matter raised during the discussions, two speakers put forward two conflicting views.

(524) In answer to those who had spoken, the Director of the Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents thanked the members of the Commission for the appreciation they had expressed for the work of the Office, which he regarded as a valuable encouragement to all staff members to carry on with what they were doing in spite of the many difficulties they were going to have to face. Stressing that action to reduce documentation would be rigorously pursued, he noted that it was the volume of documentation required for the governing bodies that was still the most difficult to control. In that connection, he reminded the Commission of the resolutions adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session and the corresponding decisions of the Executive Board, implementation of which should be energetically pursued. Lastly, he confirmed that appropriations had been included in the budget for Part I, Chapter 1 (General Conference) of 23 C/5 for the acquisition of electronic equipment for the composition of documents in Chinese.

(525) Recommendations:

(a) The Commission took note of the budget estimate of \$26,478,500 for Chapter 3 of Part III (Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents), after taking account of a sum of \$4,741,000 to be transferred to Part IX of the budget, in accordance with the Executive Board's recommendations in Annex II to document 23 C/6 Add. on the basis of decision 4.1 (Section II, para. 4) adopted by the Executive Board at its 122nd session.

(b) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan relating to Chapter 3 of Part III of document 23 C/5, paragraphs 15901 to 15911.

B. Report of Commission II

Introduction

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 2 and of items 4.11 and 6.3

Programme II.1: Promotion of general access to education: Development and renewal of primary education and intensification of the struggle against illiteracy; and

Item 4.11: Proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of an International Literacy year;

Programme II.2: Democratization of education; and

Item 6.3: Fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education: Report by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations.

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 3

Programme II.3: Adult education;

Programme II.4: Equality of educational opportunity for girls and women;

Programme II.5: Extension and improvement of education in rural areas;

Programme II.6: Promotion of the right to education of particular groups.

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 5

Programme IV.1: Contribution to the formulation and application of educational policies and strengthening of national capacities with regard to educational planning, management, administration and economics.

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 6

Programme IV.2: The educational sciences and their application to the renewal of the educational process;

Programme IV.3: Policies and methods for the training of educational personnel;

Programme IV.4: Means and infrastructures - information systems, educational facilities and educational industries.

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 7 and of item 6.2

Programme V.1: Education, culture and communication;

Programme V.3: Education and the world of work and item 6.2: Desirability of adopting a Convention on technical and vocational education;

Programme V.4: Promotion of physical education and sport.

Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 8

Programme V.2: Teaching of science and technology;

Programme V.5: Higher education, training and research;

Programme V.6: Action with a view to better integration of training and research activities.

INTRODUCTION

(1) Commission II (Education), on which all Member States and Associate Members may be represented, was established in accordance with a decision taken by the General Conference on the basis of recommendations made by the Executive Board.

(2) The following items of the agenda of the General Conference were referred to this Commission for examination:

Item 3.5 - Consideration of the following parts of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987: Major Programme II (Education for all); Major Programme IV (The formulation and application of education policies); Major Programme V (Education, training and society).

Item 4.11 - Proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of an International Literacy Year.

Item 6.3 - Fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation Against Discrimination in Education: Report by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations.

Item 6.2 - Report by the Director-General on the desirability of adopting a convention on technical and vocational education.

Bureau

(3) At its first meeting, the Com-

mission elected by acclamation Mr Sayut Champatong (Thailand) as its Chairman. At its second meeting it also elected by acclamation four Vice-Chairmen: Mr Klaus Hufner (Federal Republic of Germany), Mr Jaroslav Kubrycht (Czechoslovakia), Mr Fayez Ar-Rabi (Jordan) and Mr Franklin Verduga Lloor (Ecuador), and a Rapporteur, Mr Balthazar Nahimana (Burundi).

Methods of work

(4) The Commission held 23 meetings between 9 and 29 October 1985. The discussions on item 3.5 of the agenda on Major Programmes II, IV and V were organized on the basis of a thematic subdivision into six discussion units. The Commission examined, in addition to the draft programme and budget, a number of documents, as well as draft resolutions submitted by Member States. Items 4.11 and 6.3 of the agenda and the documents relating thereto were examined under discussion unit 2, and item 6.2 and the relevant document were examined under discussion unit 7.

(5) The Commission adopted its report at its 23rd meeting on 29 October 1985.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 2
AND OF ITEMS 4.11 AND 6.3

Introduction of Major Programmes II, IV and V, of Programmes II.1 and II.2

(6) After greeting those participating in the work of the Commission, the representative of the Director-General made some introductory comments on Major Programmes II, IV and V concerning education, which together formed a whole. He drew the Commission's attention to the innovations in the way the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 had been prepared: issue of document 23 C/5 in two volumes, merger and transfer of activities to achieve greater concentration, presentation of options and a proposed classification of activities into first and second priorities.

(7) The representative of the Director-General recalled that in 121 EX/Decision 4.1 the Executive Board had proposed that appropriations (programme appropriations and staff costs) corresponding to activities that the General Conference regarded as being of second priority, taking as a basis the classification proposed in document 23 C/5 and the recommendations of the Executive Board concerning transfers from one category of priority to another, should be placed in reserve

under a new part of the budget (Part IX - Blocked Funds). In considering the whole question of transfers of priority, participants should bear in mind the provision proposed for each of the major programmes.

(8) Training activities for educational personnel had been given high priority and it was proposed to increase by 46 per cent the funds devoted to them under the three major programmes taken together. The number of fellowships to be awarded under the regular programme came to 803 as compared with 547 for 1984-1985. Considering only first priority activities as proposed in the 23 C/5, resources for training activities would increase by nearly 11 per cent.

(9) As regards the decentralization of activities, the proposals in document 23 C/5 would bring total decentralized resources to 37.1 per cent for programme activities and 47.1 per cent for staff.

(10) The programme financed from extra-budgetary resources was an essential component of Unesco's activities in the field of education. The budget estimates for that programme in 1986-1987 would amount to \$88,991,000, representing 41 per cent of the total extra-budgetary programme executed by the

Organization. Faced with the decline in UNDP resources, the Organization had made an effort to develop funds-in-trust and recourse to other sources of financing. Furthermore, the Education Sector had introduced a computerized management system for the extra-budgetary programme.

(11) Introducing Major Programme II - Education for all, the purpose of which is to promote the effective exercise of the right to education for all, in the context of lifelong education, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that it was proposed to give priority, as recommended by the Executive Board, to training activities, to which 54.6 per cent of the budget would be allocated (excluding indirect costs, staff costs and the participation programme), i.e. an increase of 32.2 per cent in comparison with the previous budgetary period.

(12) In conformity with 120 EX/Decision 4.1, high priority would be given to regional co-operation and in particular to measures likely to stimulate or support national and regional activities under the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean and the implementation of the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa as well as a regional plan of action envisaged for Asia and the Pacific, which had been recommended by the Fifth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and the Pacific (MINEDAP V).

(13) It was foreseen that the execution of most of the 62 operational projects corresponding to the fields of action of Major Programme II would be continued; new projects were at present being negotiated.

(14) The two programmes comprising discussion unit 2 - II.1 - Promotion of general access to education: development and renewal of primary education and intensification of the struggle against illiteracy and II.2 - Democratization of education - were linked in accordance with the approach set out in the Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989. Programme II.1, to which 46 per cent of the resources allotted to Major Programme II (excluding the participation programme) were devoted, was essentially concerned with strengthening Member States' structures and capacities for action and with supporting them in their efforts to design and implement programmes and plans for primary education and the eradication of illiteracy, in the overall context of promoting general access to education. As recommended in 22 C/Resolution 2.4, the resources earmarked for supporting activities directly relating to the development and renewal of primary education had been increased by 29 per cent in comparison with the 1984-1985 period.

(15) Pursuant to 121 EX/Decision 6.1 (II), in which the Executive Board recommended that the General Conference

should 'address to the United Nations General Assembly an appeal to proclaim an International Literacy Year' (agenda item 4.11), the Director-General had deemed it useful to submit document 23 C/64 to the General Conference. Should the suggestions contained in that document meet with the Commission's approval, it could recommend that the General Conference make certain amendments to the proposed resolution and relevant work plans of Major Programme II.

(16) The purpose of Programme II.2 was to promote 'study of the necessary conditions for, and the adoption of legislative, administrative, financial, social and educational measures needed to ensure equality of access and of prospects of success in education' (4 XC/Resolution 2/02), in the context of lifelong education. In addition to the basic documents already referred to, the proposed activities took into account the outcome of the fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education, which were submitted to the twenty-third session of the General Conference in documents 23 C/72 and 23 C/72 Add.

(17) The structure of Programme II.2 had been modified in order to concentrate it further by combining activities under the first two subprogrammes in a single subprogramme entitled 'Standards and general measures at the national and international levels and study of the various aspects of the democratization and education'.

(18) In the implementation of activities, priority had been given to services and activities likely to strengthen co-operation among Member States and collaboration with the competent organizations of the United Nations system, notably UNICEF, and with non-governmental organizations and the Specialized Agencies. It was foreseen that the Organization would contribute, inter alia, to the implementation of programmes for extending education to young underprivileged children in rural and peri-urban areas and to the training of personnel.

Introduction of document 23 C/65

(19) Following the introductory statement by the representative of the Director-General, the Chairman invited H.E. Mr Bernardo Sola, Secretary of State for Education of Argentina, to introduce the report of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (document 23 C/65).

(20) On behalf of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean and in conformity with Article II,

Programme Commissions

paragraph 8, of its Statutes, H.E. Mr Bernardo Sola, Vice-Chairman of the Bureau, introduced the report on the activities of the Committee in 1984-1985. The main event of the period had been the convening in Mexico City, from 5 to 9 November 1984, of the first meeting of the Intergovernmental Regional Committee for the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean, in pursuance of resolution 2.2, paragraph 4, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session (22 C/5). The Vice-Chairman of the Bureau of the Committee described the efforts made and progress achieved under the national plans of action, the principal objectives of which were the following:

1. the provision of schooling for all children and young people of school age in the form of minimum general education of eight to ten years' duration;
2. the eradication of illiteracy and the extension of educational services to adults;
3. improvement of the quality and efficiency of education.

One of the most important results of the meeting was the adoption of a regional plan of action establishing four priority fields of action and programmes:

1. initial and further training of key personnel likely to have a multiplier effect (those responsible for teacher training and for training community leaders and educators for literacy and adult education programmes; those responsible for educational planning, administration and supervision; and educational research workers);
2. innovations in educational strategies and processes;
3. development of physical infrastructures and teaching aids and materials;
4. socio-educational research.

(21) This regional plan of action, whose initial phase would cover the 1986-1987 biennium, was a frame of reference and a means of co-operation among Member States of the region and with international and regional bodies. Summing up the results of the period under review, the Vice-Chairman of the Bureau of the Committee referred to the establishment of a co-operation network among 36 national institutions conducting activities under the regional plan of action. The second meeting of the Committee would take place in 1986. The Vice-Chairman of the Bureau of the Committee emphasized the effective part played by Unesco in the implementation of the regional plan of action and in particular welcomed the fact that the Organization had thus given effect to the recommendations made by the Committee on that subject to the Director-General. He also expressed his gratitude to the Regional Office for Education for Latin America and the Caribbean for its co-operation with Member States in the implementation of national plans

of action and its collaboration with the Committee in the development of the regional plan of action.

Introduction of documents 23 C/72 and 23 C/72 Add.

(22) At the invitation of the Chairman of the Commission, Mr Ben Kufakunesu Jambga, Chairman of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations of the Executive Board, introduced the Committee's report on the fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (document 23 C/72), together with the comments of the Executive Board thereon (document 23 C/72 Add.).

(23) After succinctly describing the successive stages in the fourth consultation, at the close of which 86 Member States (of which 50 were parties to the Convention) had conveyed their replies to the Secretariat, and after reviewing the structure of document 23 C/72, the Chairman of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations presented and commented on the conclusions which could be drawn from the fourth consultation.

(24) The information supplied, which had given the Committee a realization of the diversity of the steps taken by Member States to implement the two important standard-setting instruments, showed that legislation or regulations instituting discrimination in education were virtually non-existent in the Member States concerned, with the exception of Namibia. The Committee had also noted that special preferential measures had been adopted in many Member States for the benefit of specific underprivileged population groups. He reaffirmed that such measures according preferential treatment to underprivileged groups, often in order to protect them, were not discriminatory in the sense in which the word was used in the Convention and Recommendation, but constituted legitimate means of promoting equality of opportunity in the spirit of the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its twentieth session.

(25) The Chairman of the Committee then turned to the recommendations made in the report and approved by the Executive Board. With regard to the actual desirability of such consultations, he expressed his and the Committee's view that they were important because they made it possible to keep the Organization and the international community abreast of progress made and difficulties encountered and reminded Member States of their obligations regarding the implementation of the two standard-setting instruments of 1960. He considered that the dialogue thereby

established between Member States and the Organization should be continued and intensified, for it constituted an important factor in the struggle against discrimination in education. The Committee had repeated its proposal, contained in previous reports, to make national or foreign consultants available to countries wishing to receive suggestions as to ways and means of overcoming the problems confronting them. For the fifth consultation, the Committee also considered that the same procedure should be followed as for the fourth, namely that the Secretariat should be authorized to request additional information from Member States on questions to replies to which were not sufficiently detailed.

(26) With regard to the fifth consultation, the Chairman of the Committee recalled that the Committee's proposed timetable provided for the preparation of a draft questionnaire to be submitted to the Executive Board for approval at its spring 1987 session. The questionnaire was also to include a section concerning the provisions of the 1960 instruments calling for action on the part of Member States. The timetable provided that the replies received would be examined by the Committee in 1989 and that its report would be prepared in late 1990 or early 1991 for submission by the Executive Board to the General Conference at its twenty-sixth session.

(27) The Chairman of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations of the Executive Board invited Commission II to take note of the Committee's report (document 23 C/72) and to recommend to the General Conference that it should adopt draft resolution 23 C/COM.II/DR.1 submitted by Zimbabwe, which made the same recommendations as those of the Executive Board contained in document 23 C/72 Add.

Major Programme II: Education for all

(28) In a wide-ranging and substantial debate, the delegates focused their attention on Major Programme II - Education for all. One hundred and thirty-one speakers took the floor to comment on the various components of discussion units 2 and 3. They all said that the proposed programme was of great interest to Unesco's Member States, which attached much importance to the problems covered. Very many speakers fully supported Unesco's action as contemplated in the Draft Programme and Budget, noting with satisfaction that Major Programme II matched the lines of emphasis, content and structures of the Medium-Term Plan and faithfully reflected the various decisions of the Executive Board. Many speakers considered that Major Programme II was the most important of Unesco's programmes relating to education, some commending the

pertinence and precise nature of all the activities of the Organization in education, which, they said, was one of its soundest fields of activity. Some delegates considered that Major Programme II provided a favourable field for intellectual co-operation and for exchanges of experience, particularly in the case of developing countries. A great many speakers signified their intention to continue co-operation with Unesco under Major Programme II and made specific offers in that regard.

(29) Several speakers said that the activities conducted under Major Programme II constituted one of the fundamental components of Unesco's programme, which was a classic and highly appreciated programme, another stating the view that it lay at the very heart of Unesco's action. Another delegate observed that it constituted the axis governing the direction and development of the activities provided for under Major Programmes IV and V, with which it formed a whole.

(30) Several delegates termed Major Programme II consistent, practical and balanced, one stating that its various components formed an entity in a global approach aiming at the effective exercise of the right to education, a fundamental right that must be enjoyed by all without any discrimination, children and adults, rural and urban populations, men and women alike. Many speakers expressed their satisfaction at the concentration of activities contemplated in comparison with document 22 C/5.

(31) Several delegates welcomed the priority accorded to Major Programme II in the allocation of resources, some expressing the hope that the trend would continue and others criticising the inadequacy of resources in relation to the scale of the problems.

(32) One delegate observed how difficult it was to make a choice between various activities and at the same time avoid any increase in the imbalance of the internal cost structure of the subprogrammes. Speaking of new financial restrictions which might occur during the forthcoming biennium, he suggested that, in order to prepare for such an eventuality, new priorities should be established among the first priorities of the present programmes.

Programme II.1: Promotion of general access to education: development and renewal of primary education and intensification of the struggle against illiteracy

(33) Nearly all speakers on unit 2 gave extended analyses and comments on Programme II.1 and expressed their approval either of the entire programme or of one or more of its subprogrammes, especially Subprogramme II.1.2: Assistance for framing and implementation

of national, regional and international strategies for the promotion of general access to primary education and its renewal and for the eradication of illiteracy' and Subprogramme II.1.3: 'Training of literacy personnel'. The speakers all stressed the importance of the latter subprogramme, and most of them expressed their satisfaction at the high priority it had been accorded in the internal apportionment of resources among the four subprogrammes.

(34) One delegate thought that the struggle against illiteracy was the greatest challenge facing the international community, while another added that it was a task to be undertaken by all of mankind. Several others emphasized the importance of achieving the overall development of societies. Several speakers said that the activities proposed in the work plan for Programme II.1 were in conformity with the lines of emphasis of the second Medium-Term Plan and with decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 120th session. Another delegate said that it was directly based on one of the fundamental objectives embodied in the Constitution of Unesco. Two speakers pointed to the leading role that the Organization played in the universalization of primary education and the struggle against literacy. One of them mentioned the worldwide enthusiasm shown for Unesco's efforts in this field and the high symbolic value that action held in the Organization's tasks. Five speakers remarked that the programme faithfully reflected both the developing and the developed countries' needs and concerns, while another considered it to be one of the most popular of the Organization's programmes. One speaker concluded that it was quite natural that Programme II.1 should be allocated 46 per cent of the overall resources earmarked for Major Programme II.

(35) One speaker, however, while paying tribute to the Organization's action in this domain, felt that the best way of tackling the problem had not yet been found. Another, while appreciating the thrust of the activities proposed in the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 under this programme, felt that they were not commensurate with the seriousness of the scourge still weighing on humanity. The same speaker would have liked the programmes to be devised in such a way as to be fully adequate in terms of the scale of the problems to be solved, and capable of giving rise to an all-out, vigorous effort. The programme did not give him the impression that Unesco was reaching a turning point in the world struggle against illiteracy, although the education programmes had always shown the exceptional dimensions of Unesco's effective action throughout the world. Another delegate added that, while much had been done, it was still much too little compared to the needs of the developing countries and those

of the large disadvantaged groups in the advanced countries. She added that without more intensive initiatives of greater scope, the absolute number of illiterates would go on increasing for years. Another speaker said that if the challenge were to be taken up, it would be necessary to take the time factor into account and look beyond the next biennium; further programmes and a much more decisive commitment in the struggle against illiteracy were awaited, with a view to a significant reduction in the illiteracy rate in all regions of the world and among all population groups. Another delegate said that the solution to that problem required long-term efforts in which reflection was combined with action. One delegate wanted a better definition of the targets and results to be attained at each stage, in accordance with an established timetable, and more concrete proposals concerning the reduction of illiteracy rates in any given region, which would make possible a better definition of objectives and planning of activities; that required a deeper commitment on the part of Member States.

(36) Several speakers pointed out the seriousness of the problem of illiteracy and cited statistics that were referred to as depressing. In that connection, one delegate asked that accurate statistics be drawn up of children attending school and of illiterates. One speaker pointed to the link between illiteracy, poverty and marginalization, while several others also referred to the existence of this scourge in industrialized countries, where it mainly affected the most economically disadvantaged groups. One delegate said that it was re-emerging in places where it had been thought to have disappeared forever, affecting certain population groups that had in fact attended school. One speaker also pointed out that the reason illiteracy still existed in some countries was partly that the phenomenon called functional illiteracy by some and by others residual illiteracy was not always clearly understood. One speaker pointed out that the expression 'struggle against illiteracy' was inadequate and had a negative connotation. He would have liked to give it a more positive sense, by replacing it with the expression 'struggle for literacy'.

(37) One delegate, speaking about the nature of illiteracy, observed that it was not a problem only for the country affected, but a problem for the entire world, and one that must be solved by co-operation among all Member States. Another pointed out that education for all should be the responsibility of all. Referring to the recommendations of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education, one delegate made reference to the explicit link made, for the first time, between basic education and literacy,

literacy, highlighting the importance of the socio-economic context of illiterates. He added that such a linkage made it easier to see the points where the situations and practices in the developed and the developing countries converged, thereby opening the door to new possibilities for co-operation. Still on the subject of that Conference, the same delegate mentioned the definitive turn-around in the very conception of illiteracy and of literacy activities. Literacy was now increasingly understood in a broader context encompassing at one and the same time educational, social, cultural and economic factors. The inability to read and write was now seen as a problem of which the cause was to be found in that context. One speaker observed that the idea that illiteracy was a Third World problem was challenged, now that it was becoming obvious that many people in countries where primary education had indeed long been universal had great difficulty in reading, writing and counting well enough to face up to the requirements of modern life. Four delegates stressed that the struggle against illiteracy should primarily be a national responsibility.

(38) One speaker described Programme II.1 as the focal point of Major Programme II, while another was of the opinion that it was linked to Programme II.2 - 'Democratization of education'. Three other speakers associated it with educational activities that contributed to establishing a spirit of peace and international understanding. Two delegates wished it to be more closely linked to Programme II.3 - 'Adult education'. One delegate who had submitted a draft resolution along those lines expressed the wish that adult literacy work should be separated from primary education and be incorporated into adult education, and advocated that it be attached to Programme II.3. Whereas, she added, the need for simultaneous development of primary education and intensification of the struggle against illiteracy was widely recognized, to separate adult literacy from adult education would mean making the former scholastic in character while impoverishing the latter. Conversely, 24 speakers supported the strategy of action adopted by the General Conference at its fourth extraordinary session (4 XC/4), linking the development and renewal of primary education to intensification of adult literacy activities. Two of them stressed the connection between parents' illiteracy and children's school failure.

(39) Some delegates were concerned about the financial restrictions to which their countries were subject and the inadequacy of their financial resources, particularly in the general economic situation prevailing. While regretting the effect that the limitation of the Organization's resources

would have on the programme, some others welcomed the reduction of resources for Subprogrammes II.1.1, II.1.2 and II.1.4 with a view to concentration on Subprogramme II.1.3. One delegate nevertheless considered that the volume of resources allocated to Subprogramme II.1.3 was still inadequate. Another took the contrary view that, whatever importance might be accorded to that subprogramme, the budget increase for it ran counter to the overall reduction for Programme II.1. That distribution, he added, did not cater sufficiently for particular aspects such as equality of opportunity for success in education, contact with the environment, the problems of providing schooling and literacy instruction for women and girls, people living in rural areas, and so forth. Three delegates considered that the relative share of staff costs both for the programme as a whole and for Subprogramme II.1.3 was high, one of them calling for a reduction, and another taking the view that a sounder distribution should be sought in order to increase the relative share of particular modalities of action. Five other speakers hoped that sufficient extra-budgetary resources would be sought by Unesco to support the efforts of developing countries in the struggle against illiteracy, one of them remarking on the diminution in the estimates for extra-budgetary resources for the 1986-1987 biennium.

(40) In examining the programme activities, some speakers urged that primary education should be given priority while others laid stress on adult literacy work, which several of them considered to be an essential factor in development. Seventeen speakers supported the recommendations of the Executive Board concerning the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (document 23 C/6) with regard to that programme and the priority ratings assigned to activities.

(41) In connection with paragraph 02105(b), proposed as second priority in document 23 C/6, one delegate considered the publication of a biennial report on the progress of primary education and literacy training for young people and adults to be of crucial importance. Another delegate remarked that the activities outlined in that paragraph provided no particulars on which a practical, objective evaluation could be based. A further delegate would have liked paragraph 02106(c) to be rated first priority. With regard to Subprogramme II.1.1 in general, four speakers emphasized the need to alert public opinion to the extent and persistence of illiteracy and to mobilize it, one of them adding nevertheless that world campaigns to increase public awareness were not the real way to eradicate illiteracy. Another delegate suggested that promotional materials should be further developed.

Three further speakers, on the other hand, maintained that priority should go rather to operational projects and practical activities. Many of those who spoke on this subprogramme noted with satisfaction the development of the dissemination and exchange of information and experience.

(42) Subprogramme II.1.2, the substance of which was the subject of extensive comment, was considered by one delegate to be very important. Three delegates deplored the fact that paragraph 02113(d) had not been upgraded to first priority. Another would have liked paragraph 02113(e), proposed as first priority in document 23 C/6, to be downgraded to second priority. Subprogramme II.1.3 was considered by one delegate to constitute a model programme, meeting the essential criteria of a well-designed, well-directed and well-structured activity. The importance of the activities covered by that subprogramme was recognized by many speakers. Three would have preferred paragraph 02121(f) to be proposed as first priority in view of the impact of the activities described in it on two regional programmes. Five delegates emphasized the priority that should go to the training of personnel able to teach both children and adults, particularly for rural areas, two of them regretting that paragraph 02123(b) had not also been upgraded to first priority in document 23 C/6. On the other hand, one speaker voiced doubts about the educational impact of the training of such personnel, in view of the differences in the teaching methods appropriate to those two types of target audiences. Several speakers referred to the value of the activities proposed in Subprogramme II.1.4, one of them stressing the importance of exchanges between industrialized countries for helping young school-leavers into employment. One delegate, who considered the problem to be a critical one in the developing countries, requested that the proposed educational activities should not be confined to agriculture and crafts.

(43) With regard to the modalities of action, many delegates laid stress on practical activities. Two speakers said that Unesco should concentrate on a few practical activities which could make a real impact on the problems to be solved, one of them advocating a pragmatic approach. The emphasis placed in the programme on the strengthening of training activities won unqualified approval; it was a trend that should, in the opinion of one delegate, be maintained and developed, while another speaker considered it to be a key point in the Organization's strategy. Four speakers emphasized the importance of the training of teacher-educators, one of them wishing it to be made more systematic. Another speaker said that training was inconceivable without new methods and new materials, while yet another asked

for some attention to be given to the study of training techniques and the production of appropriate teaching materials for training and self-training. One delegate referred to the rôle of a regional institution in his country in the training of key literacy personnel for the region. Another mentioned the case of the training of teachers for the one-teacher schools abounding in rural areas. While the importance of training personnel for primary education had long been recognized, one delegate observed, the same could not be said of personnel for adult literacy instruction. Another speaker hoped that Unesco's co-operation with training institutions would be diversified to some extent.

(44) Several speakers expressed full approval of the special attention paid in the programme to the promotion of literacy among disadvantaged groups, including women and the populations of rural areas, and people living in isolated or sparsely populated parts. One delegate said that specific measures and appropriate strategies were needed to meet the needs of such groups. The special attention paid to the participation of women in many activities under the programme was noted with satisfaction by most of the 12 delegates who developed that specific point. One of them hoped that attention would also be devoted to measures enabling the difficulties that impeded the promotion of literacy among women to be overcome.

(45) Referring to the experience acquired by their respective countries and the successes achieved in the drive against illiteracy, or in one of those specific modalities of action, eight speakers offered to make that experience available for the purposes of international co-operation. One speaker advocated the development of exchanges between European and developing countries. In that connection, one speaker from an industrialized country described an original experiment concerned with ways of transferring teaching materials for post-literacy activities on behalf of women in rural areas to a developing country under a regional project. Such support for regional programmes was emphasized by another speaker from an industrialized country working with a regional horizontal co-operation project. Another speaker from the same region also offered his country's support for a group of countries in the same linguistic area, under another regional project. Twelve delegates clearly expressed a desire to take part in that programme, some stating their preference for a particular activity. Co-operation with other international agencies, including UNICEF, ILO and FAO, was mentioned by three delegates as likely to increase the effectiveness of the programme; one of them hoped that that idea would be more clearly expressed. Two delegates drew attention to possibilities of overlapping and asked

that due account should be taken of certain activities being carried on by regional authorities. In the context of international co-operation of that kind, several delegates considered that Unesco had a decisive part to play, particularly with regard to the dissemination and exchange of information, experience and technical documentation.

(46) Mutual co-operation between developing countries, particularly at the regional and subregional levels, was unanimously supported, with one speaker calling it the means of co-operation par excellence. Fifteen speakers strongly supported the two regional projects for horizontal co-operation at present under way. Several speakers cited the progress achieved under one of these projects and the decisive role played by Unesco, and referred to the recommendations of the Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Asia and the Pacific. They pointed out that the majority of illiterate people were to be found in Asia and asked the Organization to facilitate the launching of a similar programme and to examine ways of giving it a high priority ranking in subsequent budgetary periods. Of the various forms of action, some delegates placed stress on the exchange of specialists and experience while another wished for greater use to be made of national experts. A number of delegates and the permanent observer of a liberation movement wanted closer collaboration between ALECSO and ISESCO. Another wished for the establishment of interdisciplinary interregional programmes and, at that level, for the exchange of experience, which he regarded as a source of mutual benefit.

(47) The importance of collaboration with non-governmental organizations in the fight against illiteracy was mentioned by several speakers, some of whom emphasized the decisive role of those organizations in support of literacy and post-literacy programmes. One speaker drew attention to the intellectual potential for co-operation with Unesco represented by this organization. Another pointed to the role that could be played in such co-operation by universities. One speaker, on behalf of eight non-governmental organizations, described the involvement of the NGOs in the literacy training of adults and young people and expressed his satisfaction at what had been achieved by the first Collective Consultation of Non-Governmental Organizations on Literacy, organized in 1985 with the support of Unesco.

(48) The activities relating to primary education, which one speaker called the priority of priorities, were welcomed by many delegates. One speaker wished for a special effort to be made for the schooling of children in rural and in remote areas or areas difficult

to reach. Three delegates emphasized the importance of the transition between pre-school and primary education. Another delegate urged that the renewal of secondary education must also be considered, with priority being given particularly to the years of compulsory education and to vocational training courses primarily concerned with training for an immediate entry into working life. Two speakers mentioned the difficulties encountered in the education of refugees or people living in occupied territories, one of them mentioning the inadequate facilities, the lack of qualified teachers and the unsuitability of the textbooks. Most of the delegates who spoke about primary education were concerned about the quality of the education provided, one remarking that the general provision of education should not be pursued at the expense of quality.

(49) The suitability of curricula and teaching materials for the local context and their relevance to economic, social and cultural development were mentioned in a number of statements. In that regard, however, one speaker said that if such relevance were to be achieved, teachers would have to be trained to have a knowledge of economic and social problems. Others highlighted the study of training techniques, the local production of suitable low-cost teaching materials, establishing the needs of education as regards the new technologies, the use of educational technologies and the mass media for teaching purposes, distance teaching and the necessity of compensatory methods for pupils who were disadvantaged or having difficulty, etc.

(50) Some other speakers referred to the problem of introducing and using the mother tongue and national languages in education. One delegate emphasized the need for clear language policies in order to avoid the exclusion of certain minority groups while another stressed the influence of the choice of the language of instruction on the preservation of cultural identity.

(51) The problem of drop-outs was mentioned by several speakers, some of whom related it to the non-relevance of curricula, to the fact that textbooks were not adapted to the specific characteristics of the people concerned, and to the language of teaching. One speaker said that this problem was at the very heart of the relapse into illiteracy, while another drew attention to the gravity of the problem in certain marginalized urban areas. One speaker stated that it was linked to young people's difficulties with socio-cultural integration, which were due to the inadequacy or even total lack of a suitable basic education. To reduce the number of drop outs, one speaker suggested that schools should be made more attractive and education more

stimulating, in particular by means of suitable teaching content, appropriate materials and qualified teachers.

(52) In connection with the promotion of literacy among adults, several speakers referred to the functional aspect of the matter. They emphasized that learning to read and write was not to be regarded as an end in itself and that, as one of them put it, the promotion of literacy should mean a sharper awareness of reality and of the possibility of improvement in the quality of life in a context of personal and local development. Another speaker saw it as an endeavour to satisfy the needs of the most disadvantaged groups. One delegate thought that, in civilizations with an oral tradition - such as those of the developing countries still very largely were - adult literacy could not consist simply in the instrumental teaching of reading and writing, but that this process must be set in a cultural context capable of embracing the adult's traditional store of knowledge; she added that literacy education was, and should always remain, first and foremost a cultural phenomenon.

(53) The idea of diversification is bound up with that of functionality, and this led one delegate to stress the need for adopting diversified approaches, depending on the specific socio-cultural and economic contexts in question, the peculiar features of each situation, and the development concerns prevailing. This same delegate, supported by another, advocated specific strategies and programmes for the groups concerned, particularly in relation to the need to achieve a command of writing and put it to use. Another speaker added that literacy and education programmes ended in failure and a relapse into illiteracy when they were divorced from the life styles and real living conditions of the people concerned. Awareness and motivation were considered to be important by several delegates, some of whom mentioned with satisfaction the award of Unesco literacy prizes to encourage those who were making enormous efforts in the struggle against illiteracy. Two delegates, however, considered that the cost of organizing the award of those prizes was high. Another was in favour of organizing an international primary education day.

(54) Several speakers stressed the need for following up literacy training, some drawing attention to the importance of reading materials for the newly literate and of the training of specialists to prepare and produce such materials. One delegate felt that the lack of materials and of any opportunity to make use of the knowledge acquired was a source of frustration to new literates which brought all the efforts made to nought. One speaker said that post-literacy training was an important element in the democratization of education. In connection with co-operation between

industrialized and developing countries, one speaker mentioned his country's fruitful collaboration with the Unesco Institute for Education in the area of post-literacy training. Another referred to the production, by an institution in his country, of reading materials suited to rural areas and circulated in the countries of the region. One speaker suggested that technical services should be more closely involved. Another recommended more active measures to counter the danger of relapse into illiteracy and stressed the need for the Organization to carry out studies and to experiment in the field of post-literacy training, for instance by instituting various types of vocational and technical training.

Item 4.11: Proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of an International Literacy Year: Report by the Director-General

(55) On the basis of document 23 C/64, 36 delegates, including one who spoke on behalf of five countries in his subregion, firmly supported the Executive Board's decision 6.1 (II), adopted at its 121st session, to 'address to the United Nations General Assembly an appeal to proclaim an International Literacy Year'. That decision was also supported by three observers from non-governmental organizations. One delegate, speaking on behalf of five countries, expressed the hope that a new approach would be adopted for the Year, with a global strategy which should be the central point of the next Medium-Term Plan. Three speakers urged that the activities relating to the Year should be specific and practical. Another speaker also hoped that the Year would not be formal and ceremonial but would be geared entirely to mobilizing all available energies in the field. Yet another hoped that it would be possible, on that occasion, to give greater prominence to the national, regional and international activities undertaken and to increase their impact.

(56) In the opinion of another delegate, International Literacy Year, by increasing public awareness of the problem of illiteracy, and by encouraging governments to take vigorous measures, could make a significant contribution to the elimination of that scourge. Another speaker emphasized the need to put forward clear and precise objectives, to fix resources, and to propose activities likely to have a real impact.

Programme II.2: Democratization of education

(57) Programme II.2 (Democratization of education) was a subject addressed by the majority of the members of the Commission who took part in the discussion on unit 2. The 40 speakers

who took the floor expressed their support for the programme and emphasized its importance and its place within Major Programme II, Education for all. For the most part they reiterated their personal commitment and that of their country or organization to the principle and objective of the democratization of education in the context of lifelong education, the attainment of which was a condition of and made possible the exercise of the right to education for all.

(58) Many delegates expressed interest in the various subprogrammes that made up the programme, emphasizing their relevance and complementary nature, and considered that the objectives aimed at and the proposed activities, the consistency and realism of which they also noted, corresponded to the major concerns and actual needs of the international community, of the Member States individually and of the national groups involved. Some expressed appreciation for the effort that had been made in the programme to achieve concentration, which had led to the amalgamation of the former Subprogrammes II.2.1 and II.2.2. One delegate said that amalgamation had been accepted because it did not alter in any way the main lines of emphasis laid down in the Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989. Some delegates welcomed the increase in resources allocated to Programme II.2, whereas others felt that those resources were still too slender in relation to the scale of the task that had to be tackled.

(59) Several speakers noted with satisfaction the substantial successes that had been achieved in the majority of Member States in the field of the democratization of education over the past quarter of a century, and in particular the encouraging results in school attendance and in the reduction of inequalities with respect to access to education. They did, however, note that negative phenomena were observable in several regions, and that since those phenomena had been made worse by the economic difficulties being experienced by many countries, which were having a particularly severe impact on the most disadvantaged among them, fresh research and reflection were called for in order to determine concepts and their substance were precisely and adjust objectives and action procedures.

(60) In that connection, one delegate referred to a levelling off and even a falling off in school attendance among certain specific population groups, especially in the economically less well-off strata of society; that phenomenon was a source of particular concern, since it was accompanied by a revival of scepticism concerning the objectives of the democratization of education and reaffirmation of the values of competitiveness and even élitism which to some extent signalled a return to the views that had prevailed

before the great educational reforms of the 1960s. The speaker, feeling that for that reason the movement towards the democratization of education was in danger of losing momentum, supported initiatives, such as those set forth in paragraph 02205 and 02206, aimed at encouraging Member States in their efforts to promote equality of educational opportunity and treatment and fostering the analysis of factors favourable in the democratization of education. This view was supported by several other delegates.

(61) In the opinion of another speaker, if education was being democratized too slowly it was also because of the persistence of a certain degree of confusion about the very concept of the democratization of education, and a fortiori about ways of achieving it. He dwelt on the fact that the democratization of education implied, in his view, on the one hand, recognition of the right to be different and the introduction of greater flexibility into rigid courses of study and excessively ambitious or demanding core curricula, and, on the other hand, the elimination of value judgements concerning educational programmes which favoured academic over technical and vocational courses.

(62) Many speakers referred to the difficulties arising from the fact that the knowledge imparted to children was insufficiently relevant and from the obstacles to their integration into social and economic life; at the same time, they emphasized the danger involved in envisaging the attainment of education for all and lifelong education within the context of formal education alone. Accordingly, these speakers declared themselves in favour of a comprehensive approach to the democratization of education, one in which formal education would be closely co-ordinated with non-formal education. One delegate recalled in that connection the work of the 39th International Conference on Education. He felt that since schools could not give individuals all the education they required in order to become harmoniously integrated into society and all that they needed for their continuing training, formal education needed a vital complement - non-formal education - the development of which also had a part to play in the democratization of education. Several speakers noted with satisfaction that the activities proposed under Programme II.2 took account of this practical approach to the democratization of education and placed emphasis on the co-ordination of formal and non-formal education.

(63) While taking a positive view of the expansion of education systems, which in many countries had led to unprecedented growth in school enrolment, most speakers felt that the quantitative results should not obscure the crucial

problem of quality of education. They emphasized the need to seek a balanced approach that would yield both quantity and quality, and noted that the latter was just as important as the former for achievement of the objective of democratizing education. Some delegates recalled, in that connection, that the Organization's second Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989 set as an objective of the programme under discussion not only the provision of equality of opportunity for all but also the assurance of optimum educational opportunities for every individual. In that context, the pursuit of quality seemed to be a requirement for the democratization of education, which, as the Executive Board had reaffirmed (document 23 C/6, paragraph 43) and as one speaker noted, underlay all the activities included in Major Programme II and was inseparable from lifelong education.

(64) The activities proposed under the three subprogrammes and which appeared in various paragraphs of document 23 C/5 were the subject of comment by several delegates. Subprogramme II.2.1: 'Standards and general measures at the national and international levels and study of the various aspects of the democratization of education', received the support of many speakers. The activities appearing in paragraph 02205 were widely supported. Those in paragraph 02206 were variously assessed, some delegates requesting the deletion, postponement or transfer to second-priority status of the studies and meetings, in particular the international symposium mentioned in paragraph 02206(b), while others in contrast, felt that those activities were very important. Some delegates expressed support for the activities set forth in paragraph 02207. One delegate requested that the activity mentioned in subparagraph (b) of that paragraph be upgraded to first-priority status.

(65) On the subject of Subprogramme II.2.2: 'Action to achieve better coordination between formal and non-formal education and greater continuity between the various parts of the education system', many delegates supported the actions proposed in paragraph 02213, particularly those in subparagraphs (a), (c), (d) and (f). One delegate felt that responsibility for implementing all those activities properly belonged to the International Institute of Educational Planning (IIEP), and that a detailed work plan should be drawn up by that Institute.

(66) Subprogramme II.2.3: 'Promotion of early childhood education', received particularly firm support, and the actions proposed were generally well regarded, especially those concerning parent education (paragraph 02219(e)) and the training of pre-school education personnel (paragraph 02220(a)). One delegate expressed regret that the activity outlined in paragraph 02219(c)

had been transferred to second-priority status, while another would have preferred it to be classified as first priority and that in subparagraph (a) of the same paragraph to be classified as second priority. One delegate proposed that in the context of the activity set forth in paragraph 02220 the General Conference should make provision for assistance to Member States in developing national programmes for the training of pre-school education personnel and in organizing training workshops at regional and subregional level with a view to the production of educational materials. He proposed that the pilot projects contemplated in paragraph 02219(c) should be postponed and the corresponding budget allocation transferred to paragraph 02220(a) in order to make it possible to organize workshops for the production of the educational materials mentioned above. The same speaker also proposed the deletion of action 2(b) under paragraph 02220 and the transfer of the corresponding budget allocation to action 1(b) under paragraph 02219. One delegate, referring to a draft resolution submitted by her country, proposed that the third Medium-Term Plan, taking the concept of lifelong education as a guide, should be centred on two major projects, one entitled 'Lifelong education' and the other 'Educational policies'.

Item 6.3: Fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education: Report by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations

(67) The speakers on item 6.3 of the agenda of the General Conference, concerning the report by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations of the Executive Board on the fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education, were highly appreciative of the work done by that Committee in drawing up its report, and supported the conclusions and recommendations contained in it. They also noted with satisfaction the efforts undertaken and progress made by Member States to eliminate all discrimination in education, as attested by the numerous replies to the questionnaire reporting that in most countries there were no legislative or administrative measures constituting discrimination against particular groups of the population. The proposed activities for the implementation of the 1960 standard-setting instruments were supported by those who spoke.

(68) One delegate thought the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations gave a clear and detailed picture of the measures taken by Member States to implement the

Convention and Recommendation. He considered that the Committee's examination of the replies to the questionnaire was a very important and engrossing task and one to which, in his view, the Committee should devote itself exclusively, relinquishing the many other tasks assigned to it, in particular its examination of complaints concerning human rights violations.

(69) While they considered positive and encouraging the efforts made by the 86 Member States that had replied to the questionnaire, the quality of the reports and the increased participation by Member States in the fourth consultation, several speakers stressed the need for further progress in that regard. One delegate, referring to the still insufficient number of replies received from Member States, particularly the developing countries, proposed that steps be taken to arouse the interest of those Member States and foster a more active participation by them in the periodic consultations on the implementation of the two instruments. Most of the speakers expressed their support for the recommendations made by the Executive Board on that subject (document 23 C/72 Add.). Some approved and supported the proposals made by the Chairman of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations in his introductory statement and the initiative he had taken, culminating in the submission by his country of draft resolution 23 C/COM II/DR.1.

(70) The representative of a non-governmental organization who spoke on the subject recalled the Executive Board's message inviting non-governmental organizations and in particular those of the teaching profession to assist Unesco by making known the provisions of the Convention and Recommendation and by supporting the efforts of the competent authorities to implement them (document 23 C/72 Add.). He stated that his organization was already taking action along those lines and would continue to do so, despite the difficulties that might arise if a reduction in the subvention granted to it deprived it of a substantial part of the resources it needed to disseminate the ideas of Unesco. Referring to the experience gained by his organization in the struggle against discrimination in education, he said that the question was not a purely technical one and that all kinds of obstacles must be foreseen. Whereas there was a marked resurgence of social discrimination regarding access to the various levels of education, particularly in places where unemployment, a decline in the people's standard of living and a weakening of cultural identity were rife, substantial progress was also to be observed where there was an affirmation of political will, combined with social commitment.

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(71) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General said that the debate had been wide-ranging, often reaching beyond its strict limits to highlight the complementarity of Unesco's programmes in education, which dealt with educational problems at various levels with due regard to their multi-dimensional character.

(72) Generally speaking, delegates had supported the proposals submitted in document 23 C/5 and had clearly signified the priority they accorded to Major Programme II - Education for all - as a whole and more especially to Programme II.1 on 'Promotion of general access to education'. The need for Member States and the international community to redouble their efforts, particularly in the fight against illiteracy, had been recognized by all, many speakers having emphasized the complexity of that task, which concerned a great many aspects of the life of societies.

(73) The representative of the Director-General welcomed the importance attached by the members of the Commission to the past, present and future role of Unesco in developing primary education and adult literacy, particularly under regional projects such as the Major Project in Latin America and the Caribbean, and he welcomed the fact that several delegates had expressed the hope that that role could be amplified, both intellectually and in practical terms. The recommendation made by the Executive Board to the General Conference to appeal to the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim an International Literacy Year had, he noted, won the support of very many delegates.

(74) The representative of the Director-General thanked all those delegations which, in the course of the debate, had offered to give Unesco the benefit of their co-operation and experience in order to achieve its objectives. His thanks also went to non-governmental organizations for the interest and sustained support they had displayed in regard to the Organization and its programme.

(75) As one delegation had taken the view that, in the structure of the programme, the promotion of general access to primary education for children ought to be dissociated from adult literacy work, the representative of the Director-General made the point that the General Conference, in the Organization's Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, had faced that problem in its entirety as a social and human phenomenon endangering the right of all individuals to education, and not just with regard to the characteristics of any particular age-group. The integrated approach, which co-ordinated the two facets of the

Programme Commissions

action involved, had consequently been kept in document 23 C/5. That approach had been endorsed by many delegates and was also the approach which had been adopted in the regional projects and programmes implemented in pursuance of recommendations of regional ministerial conferences.

(76) Several delegates had spoken of the extent of illiteracy in the Asia and the Pacific region and had expressed the hope that Unesco would give high priority to that problem and that the recommendations of the MINEDAP V Conference could start to be taken into consideration in the 1986-1987 biennium. In reply to them, the representative of the Director-General drew the Commission's attention to the fact that the draft programme and budget, which had been drawn up before the holding of the Conference in the light of the work of the regional Advisory Committee, contained much that would enable those recommendations to be put into effect, particularly so far as a regional plan for the eradication of illiteracy was concerned. The Secretariat, he added, would be ready to explore the possibility of mobilizing extra-budgetary resources. The network of the Asian and the Pacific Programme of Educational Innovation for Development (APEID) could also be used to advantage for those activities.

(77) The representative of the Director-General then answered specific questions put during the debate. He recalled that Unesco's Office of Statistics regularly published educational statistics, which were reproduced in the Statistical Yearbook. The Regional Office for Education in Africa (BREDA) had established a computerized statistical data bank monitoring, in particular, the progress of literacy instruction regionally, and it was preparing to publish a two-yearly bulletin of educational statistics.

(78) Unesco had already organized training projects in Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, within the framework of co-operation between the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the host country. A new programme of courses was being prepared for the same countries in 1986. Two thousand copies of the newsletter ALPHA 2000 were brought out in Portuguese as part of the activities of the regional programme for the eradication of illiteracy.

(79) Some delegates and the permanent observer of a liberation movement had expressed their desire to see Unesco's co-operation with ALECSO and ISECSO intensified in order to make action against illiteracy more effective in the Arab States region. The representative of the Director-General said that such co-operation already existed, adding that it would be continued and developed.

(80) In reply to one delegate who proposed that an International Primary

Education Day should be instituted, the representative of the Director-General said that, since 1984, in accordance with the global approach adopted by the Organization, the International Literacy Day celebrated on 8 September concerned both adult literacy and the enrolment of children in school. The prizes awarded on that occasion were for outstanding achievements in either field. Several delegates had stressed the importance of those prizes and he invited them to take an active part in selecting nominees, arguing that the cost of awarding the prizes, considered excessive by two speakers, seemed justified by their impact on young people, public opinion and the Press.

(81) In reply to specific comments on the distribution of resources in the various subprogrammes, the representative of the Director-General said that the proportion of appropriations assigned to any particular category of activities, such as training, might vary markedly according to the nature of the proposed programme. The comments made on the subject would nevertheless be studied.

(82) Numerous references had been made during the debate to Programme II.2 - Democratization of education - and several delegates had examined its various aspects in detail. One delegate had expressed reservations about the usefulness of an international symposium on the various approaches to the democratization of education proposed under Subprogramme II.2.1, but the representative of the Director-General, referring to those detailed comments, stressed the importance, for the relevance and effectiveness of the Organization's practical action, of exchanges of views making it possible to ascertain what forms the problems took in various contexts and what approaches and priorities were adopted.

(83) Referring to the question of decentralization mentioned by several speakers, the representative of the Director-General said that the Education Sector was already fairly advanced in the matter of decentralization of activities, particularly with regard to personnel, since 47 per cent of its staff worked away from Headquarters. In view of the budgetary restrictions, it would be difficult to expect an increase in decentralized resources but efforts would continue so that the share of such resources in the overall budget was maintained or even raised.

(84) With regard to the prominence given to meetings in the proposed programme, the representative of the Director-General said that the appropriations which it was planned to allot to activities of that kind under Major Programme II represented only 7.6 per cent of the programme activities budget.

(85) The proportion of staff costs had constantly decreased from one biennium to another and had fallen from

61 per cent in document 19 C/5 to 54.9 per cent in document 23 C/5. It was also to be noted that staff remunerated under the regular programme executed a substantial portion of the programme activities financed from extra-budgetary resources, particularly the United Nations Development Programme, and that the real proportion of staff costs was much lower if one took into account both the overall budget of the regular programme and the budget of the extra-budgetary programme executed by the staff. It had further to be borne in mind that the staff both performed management and administrative work and was concerned with the intellectual and professional preparation and follow-up of all activities approved by the General Conference.

Draft resolutions and other decisions

(86) The Commission then examined:

(i) draft resolutions relating to Programmes II.1 and II.2, the relevant paragraphs of the proposed resolution 2.1 and of item 6.3;

(ii) the suggestions of the Director-General contained in document 23 C/64 concerning changes in resolution 2.1 and in the work plan for Programme II.1;

(iii) the work plans for Programmes II.1 and II.2; and

(iv) the budget summaries for Programmes II.1 and II.2.

(87) The sponsor of draft resolutions 23 C/DR.24 and 23 C/DR.25 (Argentina) withdrew both proposals, in turn, in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', while expressing regret that these proposals had not reached the Secretariat within the time-limit set in Rule 78 A of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

(88) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.69 (India) withdrew that proposal pointing out that his country was co-sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.173.

(89) In view of the relevant observations set out in the 'Note by the Director-General' and the clarification provided by the representative of the Director-General, two of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.173 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) agreed to amend the proposal by deleting the last part of the operative paragraph relating to the establishment of a resource centre for non-formal education. The Commission decided unanimously to recommend that the General Conference adopt the resolution in its amended form (23 C/Resolution 2.4).

(90) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.176 (China) withdrew the proposal in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General'.

(91) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', the sponsor of

draft resolution 23 C/DR.64 (Nigeria) withdrew the proposal.

(92) Regarding the parts of draft resolution 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom) relating to the discussion unit, the Commission, after hearing the delegate who had submitted the draft resolution and who expressed reservations about maintaining paragraph 02113(d) in the second priority grading and paragraph 02206(b) in the first priority grading, decided to postpone examination of the proposal.

(93) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.68 (India), considering that the purpose of that resolution was achieved by draft resolution 23 C/DR.174, submitted by a group of Member States including his own country, withdrew the proposal.

(94) Two of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.174 (Australia, India, Thailand, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Japan) introduced their proposal and expressed agreement with the relevant observations set out in the 'Note by the Director-General'. The Commission unanimously decided:

(i) to amend paragraph 11(a)(vi) of the resolution, as suggested in paragraph 2 of the 'Note by the Director-General', and

(ii) to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of draft resolution 23 C/DR.174, apart from the paragraph in its operative part commencing with the words: 'decides to add', and with the amendments proposed in the last paragraph of the 'Note by the Director-General' (23 C/Resolution 2.3).

(95) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.177 (China) expressed agreement with the relevant observations set out in the 'Note by the Director-General'. The Commission decided unanimously to amend resolution 2.1 as proposed in DR.177.

(96) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.155 (German Democratic Republic) introduced the proposal and, following the suggestion made by the representative of the Director-General, agreed that the second target of Subprogramme II.2.1, corresponding to paragraph 02203 of document 23 C/5, should be modified by the inclusion after the words 'procedures which will' of the following phrase: 'take into account the different aspects of the democratization of education and will...' (the remainder unchanged). The Commission took note of the proposed amendment to the work plan for Subprogramme II.2.1.

(97) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', the author of resolution 23 C/DR.144 (Italy) withdrew that proposal, on the understanding that the considerations expressed therein would be reflected in the report.

(98) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.128 (France) drew attention to

Programme Commissions

the fact that it was only reiterating the terms of the recommendations of the Executive Board (23 C/6) concerning Major Programme II; he then presented the part of his resolution referring to discussion unit 2 and dealing with paragraphs 02105(b), 02113(e) and 02123(a). The delegates of the Soviet Union, Denmark, Japan, Ireland and Colombia spoke in the discussion of this draft resolution. The delegate of the United Kingdom expressed his reservations and announced his intention to abstain. The Commission decided:

(a) to amend proposed resolution 2.1 as suggested in subparagraphs (a) and (b) of the operative part; and

(b) to recommend that the General Conference (i) place in reserve under Part IX the activities proposed in paragraph 02105(b), and (ii) maintain in Part II.A the activities corresponding to paragraphs 02113(e) and 02123(a) of document 23 C/5, as proposed in subparagraph (c) of draft resolution DR.128.

Item 6.3

(99) After discussing the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations concerning the fourth consultation of Member States on the implementation of the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education (document 23 C/72), the Commission decided unanimously to recommend that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/COM.II/DR.1 (Zimbabwe) (23 C/Resolution 2.5).

Item 4.11

(100) The Commission examined the suggestions by the Director-General con-

tained in document 23 C/64: 'Proclamation by the United Nations General Assembly of an International Literacy Year: Report by the Director-General'.

(101) In view of the information contained in paragraph 37 of that document, and after hearing statements by the delegates of Mongolia and the Federal Republic of Germany, the Commission decided unanimously:

(i) to amend proposed resolution 2.1 as suggested with paragraph 33 of the document, and

(ii) to take note of the modifications of the work plan corresponding to paragraphs 34, 35 and 36 of the above-mentioned document.

(102) The Commission then decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plans corresponding to Programmes II.1 and II.2 with the accepted modifications, as mentioned above, on the understanding that they could also be revised, either by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(103) The Commission also recommended that the General Conference take note of the budget summaries for Programmes II.1 and II.2, in paragraphs 02101 and 02201 respectively of document 23 C/5, with the accepted modifications, as mentioned above, on the understanding that modifications could possibly be made, either by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission. The United Kingdom delegate, for reasons which he had previously explained, expressed his reservations concerning the Commission's recommendations that the General Conference should take note of the work plans and budget summaries for Programmes II.1 and II.2.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 3

Introduction of Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6

(104) The representative of the Director-General introduced discussion unit 3, which comprised four programmes - II.3 'Adult education', II.4 'Equality of educational opportunity for girls and women', II.5 'Extension and improvement of education in rural areas' and II.6 'Promotion of the right to education of particular groups' - and aimed to encourage implementation of the concept of lifelong education for all and effective exercise of the right to education for certain disadvantaged groups or sections of the population.

(105) In Programme II.3, a single Subprogramme II.3.1 - 'Promotion of adult education' - grouped together the two former subprogrammes 'Adult education, leisure time and culture' (II.3.3) and 'Education and later life' (II.3.4)

in document 22 C/5, giving them a more general scope.

(106) In the preparation of this programme, account had been taken in particular of the information gathered during preparation of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education (Paris, March 1985), and especially of the conclusions of the regional and international consultations organized between 1981 and 1984 and the replies from Member States to the survey conducted by Unesco in 1982 among National Commissions on the development of adult education since 1976.

(107) The representative of the Director-General noted that the recommendations addressed to Unesco and the Director-General by the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education had confirmed the validity of the major lines of emphasis that guided the development of the Organization's programme in that field, as well as that of the

various features, the new features in particular, appearing in document 23 C/5. Taken together, the activities proposed in that draft programme, as in certain others, as indicated in document 23 C/INF.12 (Report of the Director-General on the proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education), enabled action to be taken on a large proportion of the recommendations addressed to Unesco. The Director-General would also devote himself to giving effect to certain other recommendations of the International Conference for which no specific activities were laid down in the 23 C/5, inasmuch as the modifications of the work plan of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 which he proposed in paragraphs 80 to 91 of document 23 C/INF.12 received the approval of the Commission.

(108) The apparent reduction in the resources of Subprogramme II.3.3: 'Adult education and the exercise of civic rights and responsibilities' - compared with the former Subprogramme II.3.2 in the 22 C/5 was only apparent, and was explained by the fact that a large part of the resources of that former subprogramme were devoted, in the 1984-1985 biennium, to financing the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education. For the biennium 1986-1987, the plan was to allocate them in particular to training activities in the new Subprogrammes II.3.1: 'Promotion of adult education' - and II.3.2 - 'Adult education and work'. Other programmes or subprogrammes comprised well-funded activities which concerned adult education.

(109) In accordance with the decisions of the Executive Board, increased importance had been accorded to Programme II.4 - 'Equality of educational opportunity for girls and women'. The funds proposed for that programme (excluding indirect costs, staff costs, and the participation programme) were 9 per cent up. First priority was proposed for all that programme's activities.

(110) The activities envisaged under that programme for 1986-1987 would be part of Unesco's contribution to implementing the recommendations of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (Nairobi, July 1985). There was a high degree of convergence between those recommendations and the lines of emphasis concerning education in the second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989), as well as the main lines of the programme proposed in document 23 C/5 to promote equality of educational opportunity for girls and women. The sum of US \$54,000 foreseen in paragraph 02405(e) of that document would therefore be utilized, at the request of Member States, to support activities entering into the framework of that programme, particularly as regards making primary education generally available, regional projects and programmes for the

elimination of illiteracy, and technical and vocational education.

(111) The activities proposed under Programme II.5: 'Extension and improvement of education in rural areas' had a double objective: contributing to the quantitative development and the qualitative improvement of education in rural areas and increasing the contribution of education to the economic, social and cultural development of these regions. With the aim of concentrating that programme, it was proposed that the former Subprogrammes II.5.1 and II.5.2 in document 22 C/5 be amalgamated into a new Subprogramme II.5.1.

(112) It was planned that priority be given in implementing this programme to the training of educational personnel in rural areas, with 53.6 per cent of the resources being allocated to activities of that kind.

(113) Programme II.6: 'Promotion of the right to education of particular groups' - was aimed, in accordance with 4 XC/Resolution 2.02, at supporting action on behalf of disabled persons and the efforts of Member States and national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States to broaden access to education and promote equality of chances of success of refugees and members of these movements, and of migrant workers and their families. In accordance with 120 EX/Decision 4.1 (paragraph 19), priority in allocating resources would be given to the education of disabled persons and refugees.

(114) The activities relating to Subprogramme II.6.2: 'Action on behalf of refugees and national liberation movements' - were aimed chiefly at improving the programme of educational activities for Palestine refugees, and the programme implemented by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In the latter case, the emphasis would be on technical and vocational training of young refugees with a view to assisting their integration into active life and the host community.

(115) The representative of the Director-General said that the action on behalf of migrant workers and their families covered by Subprogramme II.6.3 would be strengthened and implemented in an interdisciplinary framework, in accordance with 121 EX/Decision 4.1 (paragraph 49). It was proposed that the resources for the activities of this subprogramme be increased by 57.3 per cent, with 51.4 per cent going on training.

Programme II.3: Adult education

(116) The great majority of the 70 or so speakers who took the floor during discussion of unit 3 referred to Programme II.3, giving it their approval as a whole or stressing certain parts of it. A good many of them mentioned their support for the consensus which had been

achieved by making reciprocal concessions at the 121st session of the Executive Board and drew the Commission's attention to the fragility of this consensus and the danger of attempting to reclassify activities at all costs.

(117) Several delegates noted with satisfaction the progress achieved in the concentration of activities and in the efforts to decentralize their execution. Many speakers expressed the wish to be closely associated with the execution of the programme, offering the experience acquired by their countries in the service of international co-operation or calling upon Unesco and international assistance in their efforts to promote adult education, thus extending still further the programme of the Organization. Some delegates mentioned the importance of the role of national and international non-governmental bodies in adult education. Others expressed the belief that co-operation with intergovernmental bodies should be strengthened, at least in relation to certain parts of the programme.

(118) Many speakers, expressing their satisfaction at the importance assigned to adult education in Major Programme II, noted that this form of education was becoming one of the key issues in the overall educational task of societies for it played an essential role in economic, social and cultural development and was a decisive factor in the solution of contemporary problems. Several speakers also pointed out that the development of adult education was at one and the same time the condition for and the expression of the application of the concept of lifelong education, and that it assumed increased importance when viewed from this angle. In this context, attention was drawn to the fact that training, further training and retraining had become standard requirements in the personal and occupational advancement of individuals as a result of scientific and technical progress, the rapid obsolescence of technology and the changes affecting the world of work.

(119) Some delegates, referring to their national experience - characterized by the persistence of illiteracy, the high level of educational wastage and retardation in primary schools - emphasized the link between adult education and the democratization of education, and the contribution which adult education made to exercise of the individual's rights to education - a right which was set out in national legislation. In this context, certain delegates noted with satisfaction the complementarity between this programme and the other programmes in unit 3 which all sought to extend the education service to population sectors and groups which were traditionally neglected.

(120) While emphasizing the diversity and specificity of adult education

programmes a good number of delegates came out in favour of establishing a closer relationship between formal and non-formal education and emphasized that it was necessary to give thought to the needs of adult education and to the strategies required to satisfy them in relation to the educational system as a whole. One speaker rejected the idea of treating adult education separately; another thought that the definitions of adult education and literacy training should be examined jointly; a third remarked that the boundary between 'young people' and 'adults' was increasingly difficult to define on the basis of clear, operational criteria. Indeed, according to several members of the Commission, more and more adults were enrolling in the regular courses of higher, post-secondary and even secondary educational establishments, while as a result of the problem of unemployment which was rife in certain countries young people who had just left school were enrolling in adult education programmes designed to help them find their place in society and the world of work. It was proposed that particular emphasis should be placed on research in order to identify more accurately the needs of adults - particularly women and girls - in line with their motivations.

(121) The proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education made a considerable contribution to the work of the Commission. Most delegations referred to it, emphasizing the importance of its discussions and conclusions and stating that the recommendations adopted should be taken into account in the programme of Unesco; several of them expressed support for paragraph 46 of document 23 C/6 containing the recommendations of the Executive Board which 'considers it necessary to give all due prominence to applying the recommendations of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education, and to make whatever adjustments may be required for this purpose to the proposals presented in particular in Programme II.3: Adult education'. The main lines of policy set out in the report of the Director-General (23 C/INF.12) relating to the implementation of the Conference's recommendations were similarly approved by several delegations, save for a few specific points such as the proposal contained in paragraph 89. In spite of timetable requirements, provisions in the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 authorized the adoption of many of the measures recommended by the Conference. Other speakers, however, considered that the period between the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education and the preparation of the 23 C/5 document had been too short to take full advantage of the results of the work of the Conference. Two delegates considered that the proposals relating to Programme II.3 were only a 'carry-over' from

previous activities, which was, moreover, inevitable because of the Organization's financial problems and they hoped that ample consideration would be given to the recommendations in forthcoming budgetary periods. Nevertheless, in the view of one speaker, many adult education activities came under other programmes or major programmes and, in his opinion, a summary table should be prepared which would make it possible to have a complete view of the Organization's work in that area. Another delegate drew attention to the fact that many recommendations were naturally addressed to the Member States. In view of the modest means available to Unesco and the scale of the tasks in the area of adult education, the responsibility for achieving decisive progress in the implementation of these recommendations and for transforming 'the blueprint into reality' fell upon the Member States. This observation was endorsed by three speakers who informed the Commission of their countries' intention to take the results of the Conference into account by providing initially for their extensive dissemination.

(122) Apart from the question of following up its recommendations, the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education provided an opportunity for a wide exchange of views on ideas and methodology within the Commission. Supporting the observations of the Director-General on the considerable scope of some of the recommendations (document 23 C/INF.12, paragraph 14), one speaker urged that a process of reflection on adult education be initiated with a view to the preparation of the new Medium-Term Plan; it might deal, for example, with the problems of funding - a matter taken up by another speaker - and with the definition of the field of adult education. For another delegate, greater prominence should be given in document 23 C/5 and indeed in future draft programmes and budgets and in the next Medium-Term Plan to consideration of the cultural dimension of education - which lay at the very heart of the concerns relating to adult education - at a time when the United Nations was preparing to approve the launching of the World Decade for Cultural Development. Another speaker emphasized the importance of reflection concerning definition of the scope of adult education; in his view, 'by trying to understand and define the nature of adult education, out-of-school and non-formal education, we could also make progress in our knowledge of the concept of education as such'. Three other speakers put forward a definition of education which laid stress on the idea of participation: 'meaningful participation of both youth and adult citizens in the affairs of their country is the best form of adult education'. Other delegations stressed the ideas of flexibility

and relevance which should be paramount in adult education programmes.

(123) Several delegates remarked appreciatively that the emphasis, in the analysis of programme activities in terms of the proposed modalities of action, had been placed on training activities. Two delegates referred to the scale of their training needs and the relevance of Unesco's programme in that respect. The question of the training of educators was given particular attention by some members of the Commission.

(124) Some delegates thought encouragement should be given to exchanges of information, documentation and experience in adult education and welcomed the relevant proposals in document 23 C/5. Others held that priority should not now be given to studies and meetings but to trying out new approaches to the organization and running of programmes, evaluation, and the intensification of exchanges of views and experience in new and complex fields such as the use of new technologies in adult education, functional literacy approaches, and the strengthening of links between formal and non-formal education systems on the one hand and between adult education and the world of work on the other.

(125) Some members of the Commission expressed a certain concern at the shift of emphasis in the apportionment of Unesco's resources away from studies and conferences and towards technical assistance and financial support for particular projects. In that connection, one delegate forcefully emphasized that his country needed Unesco's conceptual assistance. Another thought that small, moderately developed countries like his own stood in great need of international intellectual co-operation such as Unesco is particularly well-placed to promote. Other delegates thought that a certain balance needed to be maintained between studies and technical assistance projects in order to meet the manifold needs of Member States and to enable Unesco fully to discharge its mandate.

(126) Many speakers, in referring to the actions proposed under Subprogramme II.3.1: 'Promotion of adult education', welcomed them and considered them to be in conformity with the policies of their own countries in adult education. One delegate welcomed the transfer of resources to the subprogramme. Another described it as practical and clear in its objectives.

(127) Noting the diversity of the actions proposed and the modest nature of the resources available, one speaker said he was personally disturbed by the risk of inefficiency which might arise from the fragmentation of resources; without denying their value, he proposed the cancellation of three actions, two of which had been given first priority.

(128) The proposals concerning the training of adult education personnel met with wide support. Two delegations called on Unesco to help to satisfy their enormous needs in that field: two others asked that those training actions be strengthened. One speaker, however, wondered about the utility of the preliminary international consultation referred to in paragraph 02305 of the 23 C/5, and another suggested that consultation be carried out after the planned seminars, so that the results of those seminars could be evaluated for future actions. Two speakers asked that Unesco bear the financial responsibility for a feasibility study on the establishment of a centre in Niamey (CREA) which would provide training for that type of staff at subregional level.

(129) Several speakers approved the actions proposed concerning the dissemination of information on the development of adult education. Some stressed the importance of those actions for international co-operation and asked that they be given increased resources. One delegate, expressing his government's desire to contribute in that field, pleaded for a Chinese-language version of the quarterly newsletter 'Adult Education - Information Notes'. Another strongly supported those actions which were aimed at improving educational content, methods and materials. One speaker, expressing satisfaction at the work done and the services rendered by ROEAP, wished that office also to fulfil the functions of a documentation and resource centre for the countries of the region. Another delegate approved the proposal to provide technical and financial support for the studies carried out by the European Centre for Leisure and Education (ECLE, Prague) with a view to the preparation of an international encyclopaedic multilingual dictionary of adult education, whilst another wished Unesco to give more active assistance to that Centre. Referring to the Balkan countries, one speaker approved the work done by Unesco in disseminating information among the countries of his region.

(130) The actions relating to the participation of the elderly in educational activities were referred to in many statements. Some speakers expressed regret that, because of budgetary constraints and as a result of the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 121st session (121 EX/Decision 4.1, paragraph 52), all the proposed actions had been given second priority. One delegate asked that particular attention be paid to them in future programmes. Another supported by three other members of the Commission, wished first priority to be maintained for the proposal for the organization of an international meeting of experts on the utilization of the skills and experience of the elderly in educational

activities. One delegate expressed the hope that it would be possible to finance that same meeting by means of the regional participation programme, and that the Director-General would pay particular attention to requests for the financing of activities concerning the elderly under participation programmes. Referring to subparagraph 11(c)(iii) of the proposed resolution relating to Major Programme II (paragraph 02002), which explicitly refers to the promotion of the participation of the elderly in educational activities, one speaker wondered whether that was compatible with the absence of first-priority actions in document 23 C/5. One delegate referred to as promising an initiative taken in his own country, where an association of retired teachers wishing to place their experience at the service of education had recently been organized, and thought that the participation of other groups should also be encouraged. Another delegate wanted Unesco to encourage exchanges of experience between Member States on the participation of old people in educational activities.

(131) Ten speakers mentioned the particular role of the non-governmental organizations in adult education, in particular because of the fact that in several countries many education programmes were neither run nor financed by the State. Six delegates approved the proposal to provide a subvention to the International Council for Adult Education, but one thought it was too small and proposed that Unesco provide itself with means of evaluating the work of the non-governmental organizations to guide its choices in the direction of a greater concentration of subventions. Three speakers expressed regret that, generally speaking, insufficient call was made upon the non-governmental organizations in spite of the fact that they played an important part in adult education, for instance in planning, evaluation and the training of staff. Similarly, one delegate thought that the non-governmental organizations, which had acquired vast experience in the training of workers at the place of work, like the 'Society for the Advancement of Knowledge', could usefully be asked to co-operate.

(132) One delegate hoped the Institut du travail of the University of Louvain would be able to collaborate with Unesco in the organization of the symposium on the implications of increased leisure time for the organization of adult education (paragraph 02309 of document 23 C/5).

(133) While acknowledging that the action concerning technical and financial help for national programmes of scientific and technical extension work and art education for adults did not have first priority, one delegate emphasized how important such technical assistance and consultant services would

be for his country, in particular as regards audio-visual material for adult education programmes.

(134) Subprogramme II.3.2: 'Adult education and work', received favourable attention during the Commission's debate. Several delegates emphasized the many and complex links between adult education and the world of work and stressed the need to take them into account when planning adult education programmes. Some mentioned the problem of the training of intermediate-level staff, while others referred to that of the retraining and in-service training of workers, pointing out that adult education could contribute to their solution. One speaker stressed the need to combine technical and vocational training with social training so as to help workers to understand their role in production and to be able to stand up for their rights. Another speaker regretted that 'effective participation by adults in the formulation and conduct of the educational activities which affect them' was no longer included in the list of 'expected results' of the subprogramme as had been the case in document 22 C/5, as stress should have been placed on that of participation. Another delegate, while fully approving the target established for the subprogramme, thought that the proposed actions did not give enough attention to the training of personnel at a time when rapid technological change was making skills obsolescent. Three other delegates said that the subprogramme should be given priority and importance, and that when it was executed, the social context of each country concerned should be taken into consideration.

(135) Some delegates wanted due attention to be given to activities to improve the adjustment of supply and demand in education. Two delegations hoped that their countries would be associated in the execution of the actions proposed in this regard.

(136) A number of delegates expressed approval of the actions for the improvement of workers' education. The importance of research on the training histories of working adults was emphasized. Four delegates welcomed the action to support seminars which would make suggestions to facilitate entry into active life and the transition from full-time to part-time education. One speaker said that, in the interests of concentration, those seminars could concern only young school-leavers.

(137) Two delegates welcomed the programme of travel grants for those responsible for workers' education. While noting that they had been assigned second priority, four speakers stressed the importance of the studies on the role of unions in the promotion of workers' education.

(138) Fourteen speakers referred favourably to the proposals under Subprogramme II.3.3: 'Adult education and

the exercise of civil rights and responsibilities'. One delegate, however, regretted that the resources for that subprogramme, which was of great social importance, had been reduced. As regards the various proposed actions, two speakers thought that not enough stress had been placed on civic rights and responsibilities, while another fully approved the proposals because they responded to the real needs of his country. Another delegate raised the possibility of amending the title of the subprogramme so as to include mention of the major contemporary problems related to co-operative programmes planned for the coming biennium. In that regard, one delegate said that the study of certain major problems of the world today was very important because of the far-reaching effects they had on society, citing by way of example the problems of pollution of the environment, the over-exploitation of natural resources, the various forms of discrimination and economic inequalities. Another speaker thought the proposed action on that subject could be considered as a new activity and should be so indicated in the final version of the 23 C/5 document.

(139) Several delegates noted with satisfaction the proposal to increase the active involvement of adults, particularly women, in economic, social and cultural life and in the management of their community's affairs. The action of conferring responsibility on the population and improving civic information was indeed liable to contribute to the economic and social development of communities. Citing the experience of his own country, one speaker mentioned the developing countries' need to provide suitable training for those who manage the public affairs at all levels; he therefore strongly supported the programme for the exchange of information in that field.

Programme II.4: Equality of educational opportunity for girls and women

(140) Forty-six of the people who spoke on discussion unit 3 referred to Programme II.4. Almost all those speakers expressed their support for this programme which, as one delegate emphasized, was aimed at a large segment of society.

(141) Many delegates said that their countries intended to take an active part in the execution of this programme. One of them offered her country's active co-operation in identifying current and future problems connected with the education of women, with a view to finding solutions for them. Others stated that, while the problem of equal opportunities for women no longer existed in their countries, they were still convinced that the improvement in the status of women to which this

Programme Commissions

programme was directed deserved priority treatment at both world and national levels.

(142) Several delegates drew attention to the need to identify women's real needs and to take account of their natural talents, their interests and their motivations. Inadequate planning and a shortage of qualified staff, material resources and finance were identified by one delegate as the causes of the failure of a programme for the advancement of women in his country.

(143) The effort to concentrate the actions proposed in this programme was commended by certain delegates. One speaker nevertheless suggested merging Subprogrammes II.4.2 and II.4.3.

(144) A number of delegates remarked that technical assistance took pride of place among the modalities of action for the activities proposed in this programme, and some of them hoped that some balance between reflection and the technical aspects of the programme would be maintained. According to one speaker, undue haste in carrying out programmes aimed at promoting equality of educational opportunity for girls and women might be counter-productive.

(145) Differing views were expressed, some being in favour of international meetings and others preferring more research and study on the subject of education for girls and women.

(146) One delegate considered that any special programme catering for a particular group was liable to create a climate of tension, from which the beneficiaries themselves might suffer. She added that, when such programmes were carried out, the people for whom they were intended should not be treated separately from the rest of the population.

(147) Basing his remarks on the needs of his country and subregion, one delegate said that his country had a preference for training projects which were likely to strengthen national and subregional capabilities.

(148) A large number of delegates expressed their firm support for all or some of the activities under Subprogramme II.4.1. They also recognized that those activities should be regarded as forming part of the work to give effect to the recommendations drawn up at the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, held in Nairobi in 1985. Some speakers remarked that the action proposed in paragraph 02405(e) would make it possible to support the efforts of Member States to give effect to the recommendations of the Nairobi Conference, particularly with regard to the access of women to education, literacy, science education, technical and vocational training, and higher education. One delegate suggested that the funds provided for that subparagraph should be increased by a

transfer of resources from subparagraphs (a) and (b) under the same subprogramme.

(149) Some delegates remarked that the identification of obstacles to educational equality between men and women, mentioned in the title of Subprogramme II.4.1, had already been the subject of national and regional studies. One of them suggested that the title of the subprogramme should therefore be amended to correspond with the wording of the target.

(150) Another delegate remarked that the problem of obstacles to educational equality should be studied in conjunction with Subprogramme II.4.4: 'Educational role of women in society'.

(151) Certain speakers drew attention to the fact that the right of women to education tied in with the question of their access to employment, while others emphasized the need to do away with obstacles in that area. In multicultural societies, the phenomenon of sexual discrimination should, in the view of one delegate, be assessed in a broader cultural context which would take account of the new values that needed to be formulated in view of the diversity of cultures in those societies.

(152) Most of the delegates who spoke on Programme II.4 referred to Subprogramme II.4.2 and expressed approval of its main lines of emphasis and objectives. Several of them said that their countries wished to take part in some of the activities proposed. Others commented favourably on the strategy adopted for carrying out activities under that subprogramme, which consisted in employing not only the means of ordinary schooling but also the methods and techniques of non-formal education. None the less, as other delegates pointed out, the promotion of general access to education for girls and women was often affected by social and cultural factors which had little to do with education.

(153) Some delegates welcomed the increase in the resources allocated to Subprogramme II.4.2 as compared with the previous biennium.

(154) One delegate remarked that it was important for the quality of primary education to be steadily improved. He considered that women had greater opportunities for access to education when primary education enrolments were expanding. He said that, in his country when there were few places available at school parents tended to give priority to boys.

(155) Some delegates noted that the statistics for wastage at the primary education level were very disadvantageous to girls. One delegate suggested that the third Medium-Term Plan should contain a global plan of action for the education of girls and women with a view to eliminating the inequalities from which they suffered. Another delegate proposed a series of measures

within the framework of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-1989 (24 C/5), to support the efforts made by governments to eradicate illiteracy among the female population.

(156) Referring to the Director-General's report on the evaluation of the major impacts and achievements for each continuing programme activity in 1984-1985 (document 23 C/11), one delegate remarked that the conclusion so far as education in rural areas was concerned, was that corrective measures were needed, a conclusion that applied equally to the education of girls and women in rural areas. He added that the implications of that conclusion for operational activities would have to be identified.

(157) Many delegates were in agreement with the objectives and modalities of action under Subprogramme II.4.3. One delegate, however, said that the sexist stereotypes that still existed in many countries had to be overcome and encouragement needed to be given to vocational training for women that was not confined to the traditional sectors. In fact, as other delegates observed, the occupations traditionally reserved for women, such as dressmaking, embroidery, etc. were of no help in finding employment in the expanding sectors of the economy.

(158) Several speakers mentioned the difficulties that a policy for promoting equal access for girls and women to scientific and technical education encountered. One delegate noted that, although equality of access to education had been achieved in his country, there was still a distinct difference in the subjects chosen by boys and girls, which resulted in a marked imbalance that showed up in the relatively small number of girls in scientific and technical branches of study. Another delegate also pointed out that, in his country, despite public information campaigns to encourage girls to take an interest in the 'non-traditional' trades and occupations, they continued to be under-represented in the scientific and technical branches and were to be found in large numbers in the sectors traditionally regarded as appropriate for women.

(159) One delegate, basing his remarks on the experience of his own country, considered that the promotion of scientific, technical and vocational training for women should be accompanied by a campaign calculated to create a national atmosphere conducive to the employment of women in the scientific and technological sector.

(160) Several delegates said how important their countries considered programme action 02421(b) for the promotion of access by women to scientific studies and technological training at university level.

(161) A number of delegates, analysing the actions proposed in

Subprogramme II.4.4, stressed the importance of activities enabling women to accede to administrative posts in teaching and higher education. Some delegates spoke of the important part played by women, even when illiterate, in the society of their countries. They had a prominent place in many areas of community life, in commerce and in production. One delegate also said that, in her country, many women gained admission to higher education.

(162) One delegate proposed that a survey be carried out on the way women's role in society was presented in textbooks and teaching materials. The experience of Member States, he added, could thus be made available to other Member States to help them in avoiding sexist attitudes and stereotypes.

Programme II.5: Extension and improvement of education in rural areas

(163) Forty-six speakers made reference to Programme II.5, indicating their support for the proposed activities. One speaker termed it a 'modest' programme which has not always received all the attention which it merited. Numerous speakers stressed the crucial importance of improving the coverage and quality of education in rural areas, several of them calling for the strengthening of Programme II.5 as a means to contribute to socio-economic and cultural development in rural areas and to improve the quality of life of rural people. Several delegates from developing countries emphasized that the majority of the population in their countries resided in rural areas, in some cases 80 per cent or more. The problem of education in rural areas, they insisted, was, therefore, central to the task of national development.

(164) A number of speakers noted the critical situation concerning the education of rural children prevailing in many developing countries. They cited acute shortages of qualified teachers, scarcity of books and learning materials of all types, absence of classroom furniture and a deterioration of buildings. One stated that in some schools he had observed, the situation had reached the point where it was nearly impossible for any real education to take place. Another emphasized that this was not because of government intentions or policies, but rather the consequence of a long-term economic crisis, sometimes aggravated by drought and famine. Certain speakers referred to particular problems or circumstances which complicated the provision of education in rural areas.

(165) Several speakers referred to the need for more effective mobilization of resources to enable an expansion of schooling in rural areas. One speaker cited an example from his country where

the community constructed the school and the government supplied the teacher and materials which were not locally available. Another delegate, referring to the critical shortage of educational resources in many countries, urged a search for less expensive forms of education and for ways to reduce educational costs, which, he considered to be indispensable for the expansion of education. He suggested this as a theme which could be taken up in the third Medium-Term Plan.

(166) Importance was placed by numerous speakers on the need to identify and overcome barriers to educational participation in rural areas in order to achieve parity with urban areas. Many of these speakers noted the extreme disparities which still exist between the cities and the countryside in the provision of education and urged intensified action by governments, as well as by Unesco to reduce and eventually remove this damaging inequality.

(167) Several speakers, however, stressed that a mere expansion of education would not be sufficient to meet the needs of rural communities. There must also be a decisive improvement in the quality of education offered in rural schools. One speaker insisted that improved quality of education is an absolute necessity. Another delegate noted that the achievement of an effective system of national education depends upon eliminating the disparities which presently severely disadvantage rural students.

(168) A number of delegates urged that attention be given to improving the relevance of educational content to rural environments. One, citing the situation in her country, stated that education should root the students to the land. It should teach them to care for and benefit from the soil instead of fleeing to the city because they did not possess the skills and knowledge to be productive farmers. Several speakers stressed the need for specificity and diversity in designing and implementing educational programmes to ensure that they took full account of the conditions of life and the needs of the learners. One of them insisted that education must address life 'as it is'.

(169) Several other speakers cautioned that the education offered in rural schools should not be something different from or inferior to that offered in urban schools. To create distinct forms of rural and urban education, they contended, would be a disservice to rural youth, especially in an era of increasing mobility. One speaker concluded that the provision of a special curriculum for rural children, while important in many ways, could have the effect of reducing their career and, thereby, disadvantaging them.

(170) Several speakers stressed the need to integrate education into development. One spoke of schools and other

educational institutions being not only learning centres, but also production units. The critical contribution of education to rural development in general, and self-sufficiency in food production in particular, was noted by several speakers. Certain speakers suggested, however, that to enhance this contribution it was not only necessary to greatly expand educational opportunities, but also to envisage the reform and renovation of the educational system. It was suggested by some speakers that non-formal education could prove particularly effective in meeting development needs. Other speakers called for the development of operational links between formal and non-formal education to address specific problems of development in rural areas. One delegate stressed that education must be a vital and creative force which takes account of realities and is based on new and fruitful ways of combining experience with endogenous knowledge to devise unique and appropriate solutions to problems. Another delegate, considering that the introduction of productive work into education was particularly important in rural schools, requested Unesco's co-operation to enable teachers and administrators to gain first-hand knowledge of the experience of other Member States, particularly in ways of engaging the participation of the community in the life of the school.

(171) Several delegates discussed the transformation of the rural school into an institution they considered would be better suited to serve the needs of rural communities. One of them suggested that schools might be converted into what he called 'community workshops'. These, he continued, would be open to all members of the community and would be a focal point for activities sponsored by different government services. During part of the day, these 'workshops' would serve the children and youth of the community, but at other times they would serve the community as a whole, meeting a variety of educational, economic, social and cultural needs. Paragraph 02514 on the village school in the development of rural communities was referred to by a number of speakers, all of them citing its importance and relevance. Other speakers referred to the one-teacher or multi-grade school. One delegate considered that Unesco should give greater attention to this matter, perhaps providing for an exchange of experience on the training of teachers and preparation of instructional methods for such schools.

(172) Several speakers stressed the need for rural schools to adjust their programmes to the realities of the environment and the needs and circumstances of the learners. As an example of how this might be done, one speaker related an experience with efforts to individualize instruction in rural

schools to take account of the irregularity of attendance resulting from the need for children to assist their parents during peak periods of agricultural activity or to be absent for other reasons. Such individualization of instruction enabled students to resume their studies where they have left off and avoided situations in which they found themselves hopelessly behind in their classes and consequently dropped out in discouragement.

(173) In discussing the problem of providing education in remote areas, two speakers, referring to the experience in their countries, insisted that, if the people could not reach educational institutions, then, education must be brought to the people in the places where they lived and worked.

(174) The importance of adequate training of teachers and other educational personnel for institutions in rural areas was a subject stressed by numerous speakers. It was noted with regret by certain delegates that teachers assigned to rural areas often tend to be less well-qualified than their urban counterparts. Two delegates insisted that rural schools must be staffed by fully qualified teachers who in addition to fulfilling normal training requirements should also receive instruction in agriculture and other aspects of rural life. This, as one of the delegates noted, was important because the teacher should be a community 'change agent' capable of demonstrating improved agricultural and health practices. For the same reason, another delegate stressed the necessity of inculcating in teachers assigned to rural areas appropriate attitudes and behaviour in order that they could be examples to their communities. Measures to improve the status and working conditions of rural teachers were called for by one speaker. Other speakers stressed the need to make full use of persons living in the locality as it was considered they were likely to have a better understanding of and stronger commitment to the community.

(175) The problem of urban migration was cited by several speakers as constituting both a detriment to rural areas, which often lost the most educated elements of their population, and a problem to cities, which could not absorb the influx of rural people. A delegate from a developing region stated that urban migration was the scourge of his continent. Certain speakers felt that the improvement of the quality of the education offered in rural schools could reduce this exodus; others that a content more relevant to rural life might be helpful in slowing the drift to the cities. One speaker insisted, however, that this outflow could be reduced only by the improvement of the standard of living in rural areas through the application of science and technology to agriculture and the development

of rural-based industries. In this connection, another delegate discussed an effort in his country to provide employment for women and girls in rural industries.

(176) A subject referred to by numerous speakers was that of the education of rural women. One speaker noted the vital contribution women made to the economy of many developing countries as well as their indispensable social and cultural functions. Another speaker stressed the need to offer literacy instruction and civic education to rural women.

(177) A point raised by several speakers was the need to reinforce the contribution of science and technology to rural development. Education was considered of central importance to this task. In this connection, the activities proposed under paragraph 02515 on higher education and rural development, were found to be highly useful by several speakers. One, however, remarked that 'lower' agricultural education should not be neglected. Another delegate pondered whether it might be desirable to transfer this paragraph to Subparagraph V.5.1, considering that it concerned the domain of higher education.

(178) Several delegates referred to the problem of post-literacy in rural communities, where few reading materials are available in the languages in use, or to the more general problems of creating a literate and literacy-sustaining environment.

(179) The structure of the programme was favourably commented upon by numerous delegates. One delegate, however, regretted that it appeared, at a first glance, that the programme had 'shrunk' as it now contained only two subprogrammes. Another delegate, however, expressed his approval for the new presentation of the programme, which he considered to be in full conformity with the provision of the second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989). The view was expressed by still another delegate that Subprogramme II.5.2 had been considerably enriched compared with the programme in document 22 C/5. Several speakers referred with approval to the decision of the Executive Board, contained in paragraph 52 of document 23 C/6, to upgrade paragraph 02506(b), relative to the production of teaching aids, from second to first priority. One of the delegates strongly advocated that paragraph 02508(b), providing for the large scale production of educational materials, should also be accorded first-priority status.

(180) Several delegates praised what they considered to be the practical orientation of the activities proposed in Programme II.5. The attention given to training of personnel was found by many speakers to be particularly useful and appropriate. Some of them considered, however, that in view of the

Programme Commissions

critical importance of the subject, there should be a still greater concentration of resources on the training of the various categories of personnel needed to foster the development of rural areas. Other delegates, however, questioned the adequacy of the provision for exchange of information and experience in the programme. Certain delegates referred to the studies to be conducted under Programme II.5, two of them suggesting that these should be entrusted to institutions in Member States instead of being carried out by an international institution. Another questioned the funding provided for such studies and emphasized that support for remedial actions would be a more effective contribution to the promotion of education in rural areas.

(181) Numerous speakers expressed their interest in participating in the implementation of Programme II.5, some expressing a general interest and others citing specific proposed activities in which they wish to be involved. Two delegates expressed the willingness of their Member States to host the pilot projects proposed in paragraph 02514. Many delegates also expressed the desire to share with other Member States the experience their countries have gained in promoting education in rural areas. One delegate, for example, noted the expertise a centre in his country possessed in the design and construction of rural schools and offered to share this experience with interested Member States. Another delegate discussed the close interplay between village schools and their communities achieved in his country and the manner in which this had facilitated the introduction of innovations and the development of a sense of mutual responsibility between the school and the community. While recognizing the diversity of rural areas throughout the world, he felt this experience could be of relevance and interest to other Member States. Other speakers cited experiences of their countries, which they were already sharing or were prepared to share, in such relevant fields as the promotion of socio-economic and cultural development in rural areas; the establishment of specialized rural educational institutions, including co-operatives; research and experimentation in agriculture and related fields; and the training of the diverse types of personnel needed for promoting the development of rural areas. One delegate expressed a particular interest in contributing to activities related to Programme II.5 in Member States sharing the language of his country and urged Unesco to consider the formulation of an activity to facilitate such co-operation.

(182) Noting the interdisciplinary nature of rural development activities, several speakers suggested that this was an area in which Unesco should continue to co-operate closely with other United Nations organizations. One delegate

made particular reference to the possibility of co-operation with the World Health Organization through the inclusion of health and nutrition content in the curricula of teacher training institutions and, in the materials used in the schools. Another referred to an innovative project on education for rural development being carried out in his country with the co-operation of Unesco, UNDP and UNICEF.

Programme II.6: Promotion of the right to education of particular groups

(183) Among the speakers who took the floor during the debate on unit 3, 41 representatives and four observers referred to one or more of the three subprogrammes of Programme II.6 under discussion.

(184) Six delegates spoke of their general satisfaction with the activities proposed under the three subprogrammes, several of them expressing their hope that the consensus achieved during the Executive Board's examination of the draft of 23 C/5 would be reflected in the Commission's conclusions. Several speakers conveyed their satisfaction with the increases in the budgetary allocations made to this programme.

(185) Fourteen delegates addressed themselves to Subprogramme II.6.1 dealing with action on behalf of disabled persons. Several speakers described in detail their national facilities for the education of the disabled and the recent measures they had taken in order to improve these facilities together with the problems they were still facing. Three speakers insisted that this subprogramme deserved special priority, while another two conveyed their appreciation of the increase in the appropriations earmarked for its proposed activities. One delegate referred to Unesco's subregional project for special education and requested that it be continued, stating, together with another delegate, that there was insufficient information on the extent and degree of disability in their countries and region.

(186) Several speakers called on Unesco to help them in their national efforts to provide education and training facilities for the disabled who, in one country were there as a result of the liberation struggle. They specifically referred to assistance for the provision of special equipment, the training of personnel and the training of trainers. One delegate called on Unesco to prepare handbooks for teachers of the blind, deaf and dumb and the handicapped, and offered his country's co-operation in this respect. A number of speakers proposed that an effective system for the exchange of information and experience should be established to ensure the availability of up-to-date information on facilities and techniques in this field. Some speakers called for

closer co-operation in this field between Unesco and WHO, UNICEF and WFP.

(187) Two delegates called for an increase in Unesco's subventions to non-governmental organizations working in the field of the education of the disabled, stressing the benefit derived from the seminars organized for the training of personnel working in schools and institutions for the blind, the deaf and dumb and the physically handicapped. Another delegate informed the Commission of an international meeting which was planned in his country on the teaching of mentally retarded children in school.

(188) Finally, one delegate emphasized the importance of education and social integration for the disabled which was gradually being achieved, but indicated that one of the remaining obstacles was integration in employment. He called upon Unesco to examine this question with ILO and envisage proposing in the third Medium-Term Plan a series of measures to overcome this problem.

(189) Sixteen speakers referred to different aspects of Subprogramme II.6.2: 'Action on behalf of refugees and national liberation movements'. Four delegates spoke of the large numbers of refugees in their own countries and called on Unesco to assist them in their efforts to provide educational facilities for them. One delegate considered that the activities proposed under this subprogramme fell well within Unesco's mandate, while another stated that they should be continued and strengthened in quality and in magnitude.

(190) Several delegates expressed their general satisfaction with Unesco's programmes of assistance to refugees and called for additional funds to be allocated to this subprogramme. One representative felt that the refugee's share of Unesco aid outside the Middle East was insufficient and should be increased even at the expense of cutting back part of that which was being proposed for the refugees in the Middle East.

(191) A number of speakers expressed the view that more consultants, teaching materials and equipment were essential to help the refugees attain an acceptable standard of education, while some evoked the assistance being provided by Unesco jointly with UNHCR and UNRWA.

(192) Unesco's assistance to the African national liberation movements was also commended by a number of delegates and an observer from a NGO. The three observers from the national liberation movements who took the floor expressed their appreciation to Unesco for the aid they were receiving in addition to that provided by UNDP and a number of Member States. They referred to areas where additional assistance was needed, including qualified teachers of science, mathematics and psychology, curriculum reform and the preservation of their cultural identity. One observer

appealed to Member States to make available college and university places for the national liberation movement students, especially in Africa.

(193) Several delegates also referred to Unesco's educational assistance to the PLO and to the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories. Two speakers believed that an increase in fellowships to candidates from the occupied Arab territories was essential while one of them stressed the importance of the establishment of the Palestine open university and called for the implementation of 22 C/Resolution 23.

(194) Eight delegates took the floor on the discussion concerning Subprogramme II.6.3: 'Action on behalf of migrant workers and their families'. Two speakers recommended the expansion of the scope of this subprogramme to include immigrants, who constituted large segments of their national populations. One argued that he did not favour the teaching of the mother tongue to second generation immigrant children as it risked endangering their adaptation to their new surroundings, thus diminishing their chance of success not only at school but also later in the employment market. He stressed the need for Unesco to co-operate more effectively with other intergovernmental organizations which have responsibilities in this field.

(195) Several speakers, although appreciating the increase in funds proposed for this subprogramme, felt that additional activities should be developed to help second generation migrants to integrate themselves in their host countries while preserving their cultural identity. One delegate was of the opinion that the activities in this subprogramme did not adequately reflect the gravity and the real dimension of the problem and that the allocation of resources was unbalanced. He underlined the need for an interdisciplinary programme of action by Unesco and considered that the activities concerning migrant workers and their families in the other major programmes of document 23 C/5 were only marginal.

(196) One delegate believed that disabled children of migrant workers constituted a group that deserved special attention. He also objected to the wording of a paragraph in the Proposed Resolution in document 23 C/5 which could imply that Unesco's activities were aimed at encouraging migrant workers to return to their countries of origin.

(197) Several speakers described the measures their national authorities were taking to help the reinsertion of migrant workers and their families returning to their countries.

(198) Finally, two delegates expressed the view that a new subprogramme was required to deal with gifted children.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(199) The representative of the Director-General expressed his satisfaction at the wide-ranging character of the debate on discussion unit 3, and the wealth of ideas it had produced; it reflected the interest shown by delegations in the proposed programme and their desire to take an active part in drawing it up. He thanked delegates for the many offers of co-operation made in the meeting and noted that the Member States, in general, appreciated the assistance Unesco gave them. The discussion had also highlighted the long-term significance of the process of reflection initiated by the Commission.

(200) The question of the best possible distribution of resources among the various types and methods of action had been raised several times. Many delegates had expressed their interest in the studies and meetings proposed in the draft programme and budget, although others had considered that their number might be reduced. The representative of the Director-General observed, in this connection, that in Major Programme II, 7.6 per cent only of the provisions for programme activities were earmarked for meetings (some of which, moreover, were to be training seminars). In Programme II.4, which one delegate had mentioned in this context 5.4 per cent of the provisions were allocated to studies and 7 per cent to meetings, whereas it was proposed to assign 87.3 per cent to practical activities. The resources devoted to international intellectual co-operation activities were therefore very modest, if it was borne in mind that situations, knowledge and needs were evolving and becoming more diversified at an increasingly rapid pace, and that it was important for Unesco's action that the Organization should always be in a position to note trends and sum them up, if it was not to be overtaken by the march of time. It was also important that this synthesis should be made available to the Member States and that the Organization should be able to offer education specialists and those in charge of education a framework and the means for the exchange of information and experience. Furthermore, it was part of Unesco's task, as paragraph 2 of Article I of the Constitution stated, to 'maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge', particularly by 'encouraging co-operation among the nations in all branches of intellectual activity'.

(201) The representative of the Director-General noted that a large number of delegates had referred to adult education, which was constantly developing and diversifying in a world that had made an objective necessity of lifelong education. As document

23 C/INF.12 stated (Report of the Director-General on the proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education), many activities proposed in document 23 C/5 could give effect to the recommendations of that Conference for in drawing them up, the Secretariat had taken account of the findings of the inquiry into developing trends in adult education carried out among Member States, and also of the results of regional and international consultations held in preparation for the Conference. Some activities, moreover, could be realigned or revised when the work plans were being finalized, in order to take various aspects of the recommendations into consideration. Other recommendations called for longer term action, whose premises alone could be included in document 23 C/5. In assessing the scope of the activities provided for in adult education, it should be noted that they were not confined to Programme II.3.

(202) The representative of the Director-General quoted one speaker who, pointing out that many of the recommendations of the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education were addressed to Member States, considered that it was their responsibility to put those projects into practice.

(203) Proceeding to reply to specific points raised during the debate, the representative of the Director-General explained that the organization of an international consultation on the development of co-operation between those involved in the training of adult education personnel, provided for in paragraph 02305, was justified by the need for the Organization to monitor the very rapid development of the types and content of such education, particularly in relatively new fields such as use of modern technology and computers.

(204) Replying to a speaker who had questioned the advisability of granting a subvention to the International Council for Adult Education (paragraph 02308), the representative of the Director-General said that it was a very widely representative non-governmental organization, the only one concerned solely with adult education and one that co-operated closely with Unesco.

(205) Several delegates regretted that educational activities for the elderly had been given second priority. The representative of the Director-General replied that the considerations on which the Director-General had based the preparation of the programme - the results of the consultation of Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, the Executive Board's decisions at its 120th session and the discussions of the General Conference at its twenty-second session - indicated that low priority

should be given to activities of that kind.

(206) On the subject of IIEP, the representative of the Director-General recalled that the contribution that the Institute had made over more than two decades to training and research in educational planning and administration seemed to be much appreciated by Member States. The Institute devoted 60 per cent of its resources to training. The results of the research it carried out in co-operation with Member States on the problems they faced were immediately applied in training. It should be noted that IIEP's budget as set out in the work plan of document 23 C/5 covered its total costs, including staff costs.

(207) In reply to a delegate who had asked whether workers' education was not the province of ILO rather than that of Unesco, the representative of the Director-General said that it was the Organization's responsibility to concern itself with the general education of workers so as to foster their full personal, cultural and professional development and to increase their mobility by broadening the base of the knowledge they acquired. He reminded the Commission in that connection that several delegates had stressed the importance of the cultural dimension of adult education.

(208) Programme II.4: 'Equality of educational opportunity for girls and women', had drawn widespread and generally favourable comment from delegates. Some expressed the wish that the recommendations of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (Nairobi, 1985) be taken into account in document 23 C/5. The representative of the Director-General said that the activities proposed for 1986-1987 in Programme II.4, but also in other programmes (II.1, for example), included components that seemed to be in keeping with the main recommendations of the World Conference; more generally speaking, the whole of Unesco's programme in the field of education was aimed towards equality of the sexes.

(209) Programme II.5: 'Extension and improvement of education in rural areas', had received the support of many delegates, who particularly stressed the importance in that respect of science and technology education. The representative of the Director-General pointed out that the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 provided for activities of that kind not only in Programme II.5, but also in Programme V.2 and Subprogramme V.3.3. He said that the whole programme, far from leaving rural populations out on the fringes of its attention, aimed to ensure that they were provided with equality of educational opportunity and equal educational standards.

(210) In regard to Subprogramme II.6.3: 'Action on behalf of migrant

workers and their families', the representative of the Director-General pointed out that, as its title indicated, it concerned workers who were only temporarily resident in the country where they had found employment.

(211) In response to a delegate who had dwelt on the need for many countries facing economic difficulties to reconsider the apportionment of the resources earmarked for education and to reduce its cost, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that Unesco had long been endeavouring to find solutions to that problem. It was one of the concerns that had, for example, prompted efforts to link various kinds of formal and non-formal education with a view to the optimal use of existing resources. Various aspects of the question of the reduction of costs and allocation of resources were taken into consideration in Subprogrammes IV.1.2, IV.1.3, IV.4.2 and IV.4.3. Unesco consultants' missions sent to Member States, at their request, to assist them in planning and preparing projects were also intended to help meet the needs felt in that field. Another aspect of that very complex problem was the need to expand the enrolment capacity of education systems, particularly by reducing the number of repeaters.

Draft resolutions and other decisions

(212) The Commission then considered: (i) the draft resolutions relating to Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6 and the relevant sections of paragraphs 11(c), (d), (e) and (f) of proposed resolution 2.1; (ii) a draft resolution relating to item 4.11 of unit 2; (iii) the work plans for Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6; and (iv) the budgetary summaries for Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6.

(213) The Commission decided to transfer consideration of draft resolution 23 C/DR.190 (USSR) to unit 6 of agenda item 3.5

(214) In the light of the Note by the Director-General, the author of draft resolution 23 C/197 (China) withdrew his proposal on the understanding that the work plan would be amended to indicate that Unesco would support the publication of a Chinese version of the newsletter 'Adult Education - Information Notes'.

(215) The author of draft resolutions 23 C/DR.27 and 23 C/DR.26 (Argentina) withdrew both his proposals, although regretting that it had not been possible for those drafts to reach the Secretariat within the time-limit laid down in Rule 78A of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

(216) In the light of the observations of the representative of the Director-General, the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.213 (Kenya) withdrew his proposal on the understanding that a

reference to fellowships would be made in the work plan corresponding to paragraph 02428 of document 23 C/5.

(217) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.123 (Switzerland) agreed to withdraw operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of his proposal in the light of the Note by the Director-General. The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt resolution DR.123 as amended (23 C/Resolution 2.8).

(218) Considering that the purpose of draft resolution 23 C/DR.71 (India) was covered in draft resolution 23 C/DR.175, submitted by a group of Member States which included his country, the delegate of India withdrew his proposal.

(219) One of the co-authors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.175 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua-New Guinea and Thailand) expressed his agreement with certain relevant parts of the Note by the Director-General but hoped nevertheless that his proposal having no financial implications, would be adopted. The Commission then decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.175 (23 C/Resolution 2.7).

(220) In the light of the observations made by the representative of the Director-General indicating that the first two operative paragraphs of this draft resolution would be covered by the activities proposed under paragraphs 02605 and 02702 of document 23 C/5 and that a reference would be made in the Work Plan to Unesco's support for Member States' efforts to secure extra-budgetary resources for the activities mentioned in the draft resolution, the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.212 (Kenya) withdrew his proposal.

(221) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.189 (China) withdrew his proposal in the light of the suggestion made in the Note by the Director-General.

(222) The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.169 (Tunisia, Jordan, Sudan, Kuwait, San Marino, Algeria and Morocco) (23 C/Resolution 2.9).

(223) In the light of the relevant parts of the Note by the Director-General indicating (i) his approval of the amendment to paragraph 4 of resolution 2.1 suggested in paragraph II(a) of the draft resolution and (ii) other measures that took into consideration the objectives of paragraphs II(b) to II(e) of the draft resolution, the author of 23 C/DR.220 (Yugoslavia) withdrew Part II of its operative part. The Commission decided unanimously (i) to amend paragraph 4 of resolution 2.1 as proposed in paragraph II(a) of the draft resolution; (ii) to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the preamble and Part I of draft resolution 23 C/DR.220 and (iii) to take note that the work plan would be amended as suggested in the Note by the Director-General, particularly in paragraph 3.

(224) In the light of the Note by the Director-General and the observations made by the representative of the Director-General, the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.115 (Australia) withdrew his proposal on the understanding that the final version of the Work Plan would include a reference to the collection and circulation of information and documentation regarding the education of immigrants.

(225) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.145 (Italy) withdrew it, requesting that his point of view should be reflected in the report.

(226) The Commission decided unanimously to defer until unit 6 the examination of 23 C/DR.196 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand).

(227) The Commission also decided, after discussion, to defer consideration of the part of operative paragraph (c) of DR.128 (France) relating to unit 3.

(228) The Commission decided to defer until later its consideration of 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom).

(229) In connection with draft resolution 23 C/COM.II/DR.2 (Afghanistan, Algeria, Cuba, Finland, German Democratic Republic, India, Mongolia, Mexico, Nigeria, USSR, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe), one of the co-sponsors referred to the amendments made to the text of that proposal: (i) at the end of the preambular paragraph beginning 'Considering also', the addition of the following words: 'and a comprehensive strategy should be formulated to that effect'; (ii) in the second operative paragraph, addition of the words: ... 'pave the way for a comprehensive strategy for the eradication of illiteracy and for a possible ...'; (iii) at the end of operative paragraph 3(c), the words: 'such preparatory measures as he will have taken' to be replaced by 'the work carried out for its preparation'; (iv) the addition of a new operative paragraph 3(d) worded as follows: '(d) in the preparation of the third Medium-Term Plan, to accord special attention to the formulation of a comprehensive strategy for the eradication of illiteracy as an essential element of the Plan'. The Commission then decided unanimously to recommend that the General Conference adopt resolution 23 C/COM.II/DR.2 as amended (23 C/Resolution 2.2).

(230) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note, on the one hand, of the work plans corresponding to Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6, with the amendments resulting from the above-mentioned proposals, and, on the other hand, of the budget summaries relating to Programmes II.3, II.4, II.5 and II.6 and the participation programme, given in paragraphs 02301, 02401, 02501, 02601 and 02701 of document 23 C/5, on the understanding that modifications to the work plans and budgetary provisions could be made either by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the

Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(231) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt resolution 2.1 as amended (23 C/Resolution 2.1). The delegate of the United Kingdom expressed reserves concerning the recommendations made by the Commission to the General Conference that it take note of the work plans and budget summaries for Programmes II.1, II.2 and II.5.

(232) After taking separate note of the budget for Programmes II.1, II.2, II.3, II.4, II.5, II.6 and the participation programme, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve appropriations of \$25,973,500 for Major Programme II under the regular

programme (paragraph 02001 of the 23 C/5), after the placing in reserve of a sum of \$7,843,600, representing second-priority activities (one asterisk), with the staff appropriations corresponding to Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds), it being understood that the total appropriation could be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the apportionment of the funds which would be allocated to this major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustment that might be decided upon either by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 5

Introduction of Major Programme IV and Programme IV.1

(233) The representative of the Director-General introduced Major Programme IV, recalling that the Executive Board, at its 121st session, had stressed in decision 4.1 the 'methodological purpose served by this major programme and its capacity for integrating the Organization's activities in the field of education'.

(234) This major programme covered all the activities of the International Bureau of Education and the greater part of the activities of the International Institute for Educational Planning, as well as the contribution made by the Unesco Institute for Education, Hamburg, to the execution of the Organization's programmes.

(235) The regrouping of subprogrammes within this major programme, on which the General Conference was invited to take a decision, did not imply any change of emphasis in relation to the decisions taken by the governing bodies of the Organization as regards the Medium-Term Plan and the Programme and Budget for 1984-1985. The essential purpose was to improve the coherence of the various parts of the programme and to link activities more closely together while concentrating them.

(236) Characteristic features of Programme IV.1: 'Contribution to the formulation and application of education policies and strengthening of national capacities with regard to education planning, management, administration and economics', were the interdisciplinary nature of the technical services offered, the encouragement given to technical co-operation among Member States, particularly the developing countries, and the emphasis laid on the training of education planners and administrators. One of its essential aims was to put into effect the recommendations of the regional conferences of ministers, particularly as regards activities relating to the regional

programmes and projects for the elimination of illiteracy by a co-ordinated effort to make primary education generally available and by adult literacy work.

(237) The representative of the Director-General emphasized that technical and financial support for national and regional activities undertaken by Member States was a particularly effective means of action as regards training.

(238) Under Subprogramme IV.1.1: 'Promotion of education policies', further thought would be given to strategies for the development of education in preparation for the holding, in 1988, of an international congress on the design and application of education plans. A study of the frequency of category II conferences appeared among the activities proposed under this subprogramme.

(239) The activities under Subprogramme IV.1.2: 'Development of educational planning, administration and management', aimed to reinforce the national services responsible for education planning, administration and management, particularly through the strengthening of training for educational planners and administrators. It was proposed that training and research activities in educational planning and administration should be considerably reinforced at regional and subregional levels. Those activities would be carried out by the Sector at Headquarters, the Regional Offices and the International Institute for Educational Planning, acting together in complementarity and giving each other mutual support.

(240) Technical co-operation in educational planning and administration would comprise two aspects: firstly, the Organization's technical co-operation with its Member States and, secondly, support for co-operation among Member States in the form of exchanges of experience. Particular attention would be paid to the integrated planning of programmes for the generalization of

Programme Commissions

primary education and the elimination of illiteracy, and to programmes to harmonize the development of education with employment prospects. These activities would also take account of the trends in the modernization of educational administration, with particular reference to computerized management systems.

(241) Subprogramme IV.1.3: 'Resources for education' - had two main purposes: firstly, to contribute to a better understanding of the problems concerning the costs and financing of education and the mobilization and management of internal resources; secondly, to achieve greater mobilization of external resources assigned to educational development.

(242) As regards the mobilization of external resources assigned to education development, Unesco would continue its co-operation with the World Bank, the regional development banks and bilateral and multilateral funding sources in order to identify, prepare and evaluate, at the request of Member States, programmes and projects benefiting from external financing. Similarly, co-operation would be continued with the World Food Programme (WFP) and UNICEF, mainly in the form of advisory services with a view to the identification, preparation and evaluation of educational programmes and projects assisted by them.

(243) As the representative of the Director-General pointed out, it was foreseen that the programme of projects financed by extra-budgetary resources within the framework of this programme would continue to be fairly substantial.

Introduction of document 23 C/68

(244) The Vice-President of the Council of the International Bureau of Education, Mr J.K. Mbaluli, presented the report of the Council on the activities of the Bureau for the 1984-1985 biennium, as contained in document 23 C/68, in accordance with the provisions of Article V, paragraph (d), of the Statutes of the Bureau.

(245) He noted that, according to the statutes of the IBE, the Council drew up the draft programme and budget of the Bureau, based on the proposals of the Director, and submitted it to the General Conference accompanied by the observations or recommendations of the Director-General and the Executive Board. The Bureau implemented the programme and budget approved by the General Conference under the supervision of the Council. The Bureau liaised with the relevant units at Unesco Headquarters in order to carry out the mandate entrusted to it in the best possible way.

(246) He reported that the Council had held three sessions in Geneva during the biennium and, among other things, had discussed the distribution of IBE publications and the preparations for

and the results of the 39th session of the International Conference on Education and, more importantly, had drawn up the draft programme and budget for the IBE for 1986-1987. The last exercise had been the most demanding as it came immediately after the withdrawal of a Member State, which meant a reduction of Unesco's resources in addition to the problem of applying zero-growth to the budgeting base. The Council had placed the proposed programme and the accompanying budget in second priority. He noted that the proposals in the relevant parts of Major Programmes IV and V had been reduced to the bare minimum while at the same time leaving the coherence and balance of the activities of the Bureau intact. He pointed out that the pertinent sections in Subprogrammes IV.1, IV.2 and IV.4 had been adopted by consensus by the 24 Member States on the IBE Council, representing the five geographical regions of Unesco.

(247) He said that the Bureau had moved into new premises during the biennium and that the 39th session of the International Conference on Education had taken place from 16 to 25 October 1984. It had successfully discussed the special theme of the session 'The generalization of primary education and its renewal from the standpoint of the provision of an appropriate introduction to science and technology' and thereafter had adopted a recommendation to Member States. He drew the Commission's attention to paragraph 19 of document 23 C/68, which indicated that a decision of the General Conference was required as to the date for the convening of the 41st session of the International Conference on Education in 1988. He also mentioned that the Director-General was examining the question of the frequency of meetings, including that Conference, and that an amendment of the IBE statutes would be necessary if the ICE were to be held at more than two-yearly intervals. He noted that the Bureau was busy preparing the 40th session of the ICE, as described in paragraphs 20 and 21 of document 23 C/68.

(248) The IBE study programmes as described in paragraphs 22 to 25 of document 23 C/68, were in accordance with the IBE statutes. The Commission's attention was drawn to paragraph 25 which described a healthy trend in long-term planning at IBE.

(249) The publications unit had machines equipped with special printing codes to determine type-faces and format so that the text, once processed, could be telephoned through to the printers for photo composition by computer.

(250) The Vice-President of the IBE Council said that the Educational Documentation and Information Service was fully operational and if the General Conference approved the proposals before it, the Service would satisfy the requests of Member States as in the past. He drew attention to paragraph 35 of document 23 C/68 which described the

inauguration in 1985 of a new IBE Information service, the Information Files Programme.

(251) Mr Mbabuli mentioned the brief study courses organized at IBE for visitors from Member States. Finally, he said that the Bureau staff had made some useful journeys to promote, publicize and popularize the Bureau in different fora and to plan co-operative activities with educational institutions in Member States.

(252) He commended the Director of the Bureau for his untiring efforts in the Bureau's service and for injecting new blood into the Bureau during his short stay. He thanked the Director-General and his representatives who had honoured the Council meetings with their presence, and expressed appreciation for the Director-General's useful advice at all times.

Introduction of document 23 C/69

(253) The Chairman of the Governing Board of the International Institute for Educational Planning, Mr Adiseshiah, then introduced the eleventh report of the Governing Board to the General Conference. He recalled that the General Conference had set up the Institute in 1963 on the basis of two fundamental premises: that development was inconceivable without universal education and that development could not be other than global and endogenous.

(254) The report before the General Conference covered two years of activity - 1984 and 1985 - which corresponded to a critical period, marked in particular for many Member States by a reduction in the resources assigned to education as a result of economic recession, inflation, deficits in the balance of payments and increasing debt.

(255) During the biennium, the IIEP had completed its second Medium-Term Plan (1978-1985) and begun its third Plan (1984-1989). Under the second Plan, the Institute completed its training programme and the research previously undertaken on three major subjects: higher education and the employment of graduates; costs and financing of education; and education, industrialization and technical progress. Ten complementary studies carried out mainly in collaboration with national teams in a dozen different countries were also completed.

(256) Under its Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, the Institute began new training and research activities. In the latter field, three major themes would be explored: 'The implications for education planning of scientific and technological development policies'; 'The diversification of educational activities and the problems raised for educational planning by efforts to articulate them in a development perspective' and 'The role of educational planning in the decision-making and implementation process'. Studies had

already begun in ten countries for the first theme and in eight countries for each of the other two themes.

(257) As regards training, the Institute continued to develop and consolidate not only its experience of the annual nine-month training programme which it organizes for 50 trainees after a previous period of training in their countries of origin, but also its programme of intensive courses, geared to the real situation in five countries. Five other workshops and seminars were held on subjects relating to educational planning in five different countries.

(258) The Chairman of the Governing Board then quoted the example of India, which had undertaken a vast, national conceptual effort to lay the foundations of a new educational policy, thus proving that that country had considerable capacities for educational forecasting and planning. It remained to put those intentions into effect by means of sophisticated techniques of operational implementation and management. This, the speaker pointed out, was exactly where Unesco - and, within Unesco, the IIEP - could come in by facilitating the transition from idea to action, for which purpose those responsible for that transition had first to be trained.

(259) The Chairman of the Board then examined the third aspect of the Institute's activities, that of the dissemination of its work, in particular by means of its publications. Since the Institute's inception, over 450 titles, covering various fields, had made its work known. During the period covered by the report, 35 publications had been issued. Efforts would be made to achieve the widest possible dissemination of that fund of intellectual and professional material.

(260) The Chairman of the Governing Board also referred to the financing of the Institute and, on the Board's behalf, expressed cordial thanks to the General Conference for the support it had always given to the Institute, and to the Director-General and the Assistant Director-General for Education who had spared no effort to support and encourage the Institute in all its activities. He also expressed the Board's sincere gratitude to Member States which had made voluntary contributions to the IIEP to enable it to complete its programme. Those countries were Belgium, Canada, Finland, the Federal Republic of Germany, Ireland, Norway, Sweden and more recently, Switzerland. He also emphasized the new contribution by OPEC and the part played by France, the Institute's host country.

(261) In conclusion, the Chairman referred to the financing difficulties that the IIEP had had to face. The level of activities which the Institute had reached in 1984-1985 represented a 'critical mass' below which those activities could not go without detriment to the Institute's mission.

Major Programme IV: The formulation and application of educational policies

(262) Many speakers emphasized the importance to Member States of the whole set of activities foreseen in Major Programme IV, one of them describing them as the backbone of the Organization's education programmes as a whole. One speaker referred to the importance of the convention and the recommendations mentioned in paragraph 7 of the text of resolution 4.1 proposed in paragraph 04002 of document 23 C/5 for the formulation and execution of educational policies.

(263) One participant referred to the growing role played by education in modern societies and the complexity of the problems which it now had to help to solve, taking account in particular of the requirements of scientific and technological progress. Another participant emphasized the need for well-designed national education policies to make possible effective educational development. Another, stressing the capital importance of well-defined educational objectives, referred to the efforts being made by his country to establish bodies whereby education could be more closely linked with society and culture, and to involve the whole community in the management of education.

(264) Several speakers emphasized that Major Programme IV brought together in an appropriate manner all the means which could make it possible to improve the quality of education - and thus that of life - and effectively to broaden access to education.

(265) One participant pointed out Major Programme IV should be judged in relation to the other major programmes relating to education and in particular Major Programme II. Some speakers raised questions about the scale of the means proposed for Major Programme IV in relation to those provided for Major Programmes II and V. They stressed that it should not follow purely theoretical lines of emphasis and should be directed towards activities of an operational nature. One speaker considered that, although directed towards the improvement of education in the developing countries, Major Programme IV deserved the attention of the industrialized countries, in view of the emergence of new forms of education in the developing countries from which the industrialized countries could learn.

(266) Several delegates hoped that Major Programme IV would make an effective contribution to the reforms of the educational systems undertaken in their own countries. One participant described the Provisional Reform Council established in his country, and mentioned his country's interest in two of the achievements of the major programme, the regional network of educational innovation and the evaluation of

the large-scale utilization for educational purposes of communication technologies which had been undertaken.

(267) Lastly, one speaker emphasized that the activities of Major Programme IV concerned both decision-makers and the public at large, and recommended that Unesco should exercise to the full the responsibilities incumbent upon it in the field of education.

Programme IV.1: Contribution to the formulation and application of educational policies and strengthening of national capacities with regard to educational planning, management, administration and economics

(268) The representatives of 51 Member States and the representative of one intergovernmental organization took part in the debate on Programme IV.1. The speakers were unanimous in underlining the importance of the programme and the central position it occupied among Unesco's education programmes. They regarded as relevant and useful the objective assigned to the programme: contributing to strengthening the capacity of each Member State to formulate and implement its education policies through exchanges of information and experimental data with other Member States, the training of educational planners, administrators and managers and activities aimed at the mobilization and rational utilization of internal and external resources for the development of education, in an increasingly complex political, socio-economic and cultural environment. One delegate said that execution of the programme offered Member States the opportunity to find out about experiments conducted in other countries and refine their own education policies in the areas of organization, analysis of results and administration of the system. Another delegate thought there was absolutely no doubt that the programme was a useful one, in that it addressed the technical aspects of education, without which all policies would remain a dead letter.

(269) Many speakers noted that the activities proposed under Programme IV.1 were in accordance with the general framework and main lines of emphasis of Unesco's second Medium-Term Plan (1984-1989) and the directives formulated by the Executive Board in 120 EX/Decision 4.1 and 4 X/EX/Decision 2. They declared themselves satisfied with the proposals contained in document 23 C/5 and in documents 23 C/6 and 23 C/6 Add. concerning the recommendations of the Executive Board, and they stressed that the programme actions corresponded to the needs of Member States. They welcomed the particular emphasis that had been placed on training activities.

(270) Noting the considerable scope of the objectives set for certain of the activities proposed under Programme IV.1,

one delegate expressed the hope that it could be reconciled, during the programming process, with the concern for quality which was of more importance than the volume of activities. He went on to observe with satisfaction that the programme demonstrated the prime role education must play in the economic and social changes that were a feature of the modern world. He stressed the soundness of the programme, while expressing the hope that education policies should not lose sight of the arts and other features of study programmes which appeared in any balanced definition of education. He said that, whilst it was certainly the responsibility of education policies to take account of factors such as the labour market and the pressure of unemployment, those elements that contributed to the educational and cultural development of the individual should not be sacrificed. In the same vein, some delegates came out in favour of a close linkage between education policies and policies concerned with the development of science and technology, as well as culture. One delegate wanted the implementation of education policies in rural areas, especially those hard hit by drought, to be conceived as an interdisciplinary whole and to take account of the pace of life of the populations concerned.

(271) Several speakers referred to the means available for achieving the objectives of Programme IV.1, in the context of its three subprogrammes, and for thereby meeting the concerns expressed during the debate by representatives of Member States. In that connection, they mentioned the need to develop and strengthen regional and international co-operation. One speaker emphasized the particular place occupied in that regard by the International Bureau of Education (IBE), the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and the Unesco Institute of Education (UIE) in Hamburg. Those three institutions, each in its own particular way, fulfilled an irreplaceable role in implementing and achieving the objectives of Unesco in the field of education. Several speakers also referred to various mechanisms of regional co-operation that had been established by Unesco in their regions and which were operating to their entire satisfaction - networks such as APEID in Asia, CARNEID in the Caribbean, NEIDA in Africa and CODIESEE in Europe were mentioned, along with the project for regional co-operation for training and research in educational planning and administration in Africa (COFORPA). The irreplaceable role played by the Regional Offices was also mentioned, and several speakers requested that they be strengthened, and that both activities and resources be further decentralized.

(272) A large number of speakers referred to the need to maintain a

balance between reflection and studies on the one hand and practical action or operational activities on the other. The debate revealed a certain identity of views on basic issues, but differences persisted as to whether that balance had been achieved in Programme IV.1. Several delegates referred to the importance, in their view excessive, to be given to conferences, studies and meetings, and stressed their high cost in relation not only to Programme IV.1 as a whole but also to the resources available for other important programmes such as those to do with literacy and adult education. Some delegates even stressed the need to reconsider the distribution of resources. Others were of the opinion that balance had been successfully achieved in Programme IV.1. They emphasized the very special significance of activities concerned with reflection in that programme, a major objective of which was still the strengthening of international co-operation, especially intellectual co-operation, in education through the exchange of information and experience and through training, with a view to strengthening the national capacities of Member States, particularly the developing countries, for formulating and implementing education policies adapted to their specific conditions and needs. One delegate considered the place and the resources allocated to those activities of intellectual co-operation in the draft programme and budget inadequate in relation to the importance accorded to them, and wanted them to be reinforced in the future. He said that as far as he was concerned studies, research and exchanges of views and experience were vital prerequisites for the launching of appropriate practical activities.

(273) One delegate said that he gave his full support to Programme IV.1 because of the progress which he considered laudable that had been made in giving the proposed activities a practical content and greater relevance to the needs of Member States. He stressed the importance of formulating and implementing education policies for the developing countries; for his country it was a particular area in which Unesco's role should remain central. One speaker, while saying that he was in favour of increasing activities of a practical nature, pointed out that in many developing countries where the basic data were lacking or understanding of the parameters that influenced development was slight, studies and research were particularly important and should retain their priority status.

(274) In the view of one speaker, it was only by means of well-defined policies and strategies that it was possible to resolve the various problems with which Member States were confronted in matters of education. He felt that it was necessary to strengthen Unesco's

role in identifying projects within the framework of those strategies, because, he stressed, only practical action could prevent the frustrations that might arise from strategies for the implementation of which conditions were not favourable.

(275) Speakers gave their support to the relevant sections of the proposed resolution (paragraph 04002) concerning Programme IV.1. One delegate, however, proposed that paragraph 6 be made more detailed, particularly in order to bring out the problems of mobilizing external resources as well as those of the optimum distribution of internal resources assigned to the development of education. He also considered that paragraph 7 should be transferred to Major Programme XIII where it would fit in better.

(276) Subprogramme IV.1.1: 'Promotion of education policies' was discussed at length by many delegates. Several of them approved of the targets and the expected results and praised the clarity and concision of their formulation. The speakers dwelt on the importance of the tasks Unesco set itself in this subprogramme for the promotion of education policies and on their co-ordination with programmes related to science, technology and culture, and most of them approved of the activities proposed in paragraph 04105. One delegate, however, asked that the activities described in paragraph 04105(a) be given second priority. Another delegate, referring to the crucial area of the co-ordination of education policies with science and technology policies, considered the activities set out in paragraph 04105(a) very important. He hoped that Unesco would take into account, in this connection, a study on the project for the improvement of international schools undertaken by OECD and due to be completed in 1986. Several speakers said that this subprogramme was a good point of departure for the development of international co-operation between the Member States of Unesco in the exchange of information, knowledge and experience concerning the implementation of education policies. Drawing attention to the repercussions that political and economic fluctuations and demographic changes could have on the formulation and implementation of education policies, one delegate stressed the need for continuous monitoring and evaluation of the application of these policies, in order that the adjustments rendered necessary by constant changes at national level might be made whenever appropriate.

(277) Several delegations raised questions regarding the preparation of the International Conference on Education, its organization, frequency, and the evaluation of its proceedings and of the action it initiated. As regards its preparation, one delegate said that an

improvement in the quality of the documents provided for each session was to be desired, even if it meant reducing their number. As for the organization and working arrangements for the Conference, some delegates asked for them to be improved by reducing the number and length of official statements during plenary sessions, thus allowing more time for smaller, technically-oriented working groups; this, in their estimation, would make for genuine communication between delegates. Opinions on the frequency of Conference sessions were varied: some delegates were in favour of maintaining the status quo, while others proposed that it should be held only every four years. Most of the delegates who spoke on this subject stressed the importance they attached, with regard to the International Conference on Education, to study of the frequency of the regional conferences and of the International Conference on Education, proposed in paragraph 04107(g). One delegate asked the Secretariat how this study would be conducted, and when the results would be made available.

(278) Several statements were made regarding evaluation of the proceedings of the International Conference on Education. Some delegates wanted this evaluation to deal not only with the preparation and working arrangements for this Conference, but also with the quality and relevance of the documentation produced for the occasion. Discussion of evaluation turned also to the follow-up to the Conference, both in the IBE and in the Member States; some delegates wished the recommendations adopted at each session of the International Conference on Education had a greater impact on educational realities.

(279) Several speakers referred to the problem of the frequency of international and regional conferences and to the, in their view, excessively high proportion of the resources of this subprogramme, of Programme IV.1, of Major Programme IV and even of the Organization's activities as a whole, which had been devoted to those conferences. Some wondered how the results of the conferences and meetings could be improved. The opinion was expressed that each future conference or meeting should be preceded by a full assessment and a close evaluation of the use that had been made of studies prepared for earlier conferences and meetings and of the implementation of recommendations they had adopted. Some delegates considered that such analysis and evaluation of results would be possible only where the interval between meetings and conferences was long enough to allow the Member States concerned to assess what had been achieved prior to and as a result of each meeting. They declared themselves in favour of longer intervals between conferences. Several other delegates considered the existing,

variable intervals to be quite long enough, and stressing the need for education policies to adapt constantly to the extremely rapid changes that were taking place in the Member States of the various regions, said that it would be a mistake, in their opinion, to allow too long an interval to elapse between conferences and meetings. One delegate considered that the frequency of regional and international conferences should be determined not by the criterion of cost alone, but also by the nature of the conferences, which changed in accordance with the interval adopted. He was of the opinion that the longer the interval between conferences, the more they tended to become platforms for political declarations and the less efficient they were; when, on the other hand, the intervals between them were reduced, they became more technical in nature. The delegates who spoke on this subject all approved the study on the frequency of conferences and also the priority it had been given in the programme, in accordance with the recommendation of the Executive Board (120 EX/Decision 4.1).

(280) Several speakers, including those belonging to the region of Latin America and the Caribbean, expressed support for the organization of the sixth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in the Member States of that region (MINEDLAC VI) and for the themes proposed (paragraph 04107(a)). The delegation of Colombia told the Commission of its country's offer to host the conference. While approving the themes proposed for examination at the MINEDLAC VI Conference, one speaker hoped that the theme of the changes that had taken place and the reforms that had been carried out in education systems would not be limited to higher education, but would be broadened to cover other levels of education and even literacy education.

(281) Many delegates from the Europe region referred to the organization in 1987 of the fourth Conference of Ministers of Education of the Member States of that region (MINEDEUROPE IV). Opinions were divided, however. Some speakers, considering that the date proposed did not leave time for adequate preparation of the Conference, and speaking of its cost, given the current financial difficulties of Unesco, proposed that it be postponed to 1989 or 1990. Others, emphasizing the importance and the usefulness of the conference for the development of co-operation in education in the region, where technical and technological changes were the most rapid, and observing that if it were to take place in 1989 or 1990 its recommendations could not be taken into account in the preparation of Unesco's third Medium-Term Plan, were of the opinion that the conference should be organized at the

time proposed in document 23 C/5. Although the many delegates who made statements on this subject referred to the conclusions of the International Symposium organized by Unesco in July 1985 and to the recommendations of the Executive Board regarding this conference (23 C/5), their interpretations of these documents appeared to diverge as to the appropriateness of organizing the Conference in 1987.

(282) The meetings provided for in the Asia and the Pacific, Arab States and Africa regions (paragraph 04107(d), (e) and (f) were welcomed by several delegates, including those of the Member States of those regions. Some delegates spoke of the importance for the development of education in Africa of the regional conferences, in particular the Harare Conference (MINEDAF V), of which the first follow-up meeting had been held at the Regional Office for Education in Africa (BREDA) in May 1985. They considered that a first-priority rating should be given to the meeting provided for in paragraph 04107(f) to ensure the follow-up to the declaration and recommendations of MINEDAF V and to prepare MINEDAF VI, scheduled for 1988.

(283) Several delegates spoke of their interest in the activities relating to the exchange of information on education policies, planning and administration proposed in paragraph 04108, and those in paragraph 04109 concerning co-operation in the formulation of education policies. Some speakers, while not denying their importance, accorded them lower priority, particularly the activities described in paragraph 04108(a), for which one delegate expressly requested downgrading to second priority. One delegate conveyed his country's desire to host one of the five workshops provided for in paragraph 04109(a).

(284) A very large number of delegates devoted attention to Subprogramme IV.1.2: 'Improvement of educational planning, administration and management'. All of them noted with satisfaction the prominence accorded in it to training activities for educational planners, administrators and other staff, and the large share of resources allocated to those activities within Major Programme IV. They said that the targets and the expected results in paragraphs 04113 and 04114 of document 23 C/5 were very clearly expressed.

(285) Several speakers supported the actions envisaged in paragraph 04115 relating to the formulation and application of national integrated educational and training plans and promotion of the evaluation of the application of educational policies. One speaker wanted the consultant services envisaged in paragraph 04115(b) to receive first priority. Many delegates firmly supported the special attention given there and in other paragraphs to the least-developed countries.

Programme Commissions

(286) The speakers dealt with the practical and organizational aspects of training as well as with its concepts and content, and reference was made by all speakers to the prime importance of training in the implementation of education policies. Another major aspect to which attention was drawn by the delegates was regional and international co-operation and research on educational planning, administration and management. Several speakers described the progress made in this area at the international, regional and national levels. Mention was made in this connection of the courses organized by the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP), the regional Offices and the Headquarters of the Organization and of the regional institutions and projects through which horizontal co-operation was organized between Member States, such as the COFORPA project and the CINTERPLAN network in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(287) One speaker stated that the training of educational planners was a necessity for all since no education system could develop in a sustained and balanced manner without conscious and effective planning. In the view of this speaker, all educational officials, at all levels, even teachers, were potential planners and the idea of planning should be popularized, and training in planning conducted in terms of techniques which were accessible to and assimilable by the average teacher in order to make education systems as effective and as efficient as possible. To that end, he advocated giving priority to specific case-studies and support for all activities designed to popularize planning techniques nationally and locally. In particular, he wanted training in educational planning to be organized for local administrators and for school principals. Another delegate wanted training for educational planners and administrators to take account of the nature of their jobs and of the specific duties which were entrusted to them. Another speaker stressed the importance of the activities in paragraph 04117 and made particular reference to subparagraph (c) of that paragraph, but considered that training programmes should also cover the theory and practice of planning and decision-making in societies with different socio-economic and cultural structures. Several delegates asked Unesco to pursue co-operation in the area of planning. Some delegates offered the collaboration of the institutions in their countries while others made specific requests for assistance.

(288) During the discussion, 35 delegations spoke on the subject of the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). The overwhelming majority of the representatives of the Member States from all regions paid

tribute to the work done by the Institute in research, training and dissemination. Most statements dealt with the way in which the activities of the IIEP were presented in the draft programme and budget, or with certain aspects of its activities, including the training, research and publications in its programme.

(289) With reference to the presentation of the Institute's activities, four delegates remarked that the sum allotted for just one of the five research themes of the Institute in paragraph 04116 seemed very large and gave the impression that such a volume of studies could only lead to academic or theoretical works which bore little relation to the tasks of the Institute. Another delegate considered that it should be clearly indicated that this sum in fact represented a very large proportion of the funds allotted by Unesco to IIEP, since it included staff costs which were not usually shown with programme actions. He therefore suggested that the appropriations for IIEP should be shown for each head with a precise indication of what they represented. The activities and the corresponding sums should be shown in a table, as in the case of IBE.

(290) One speaker suggested that there should be a detailed analytical description of the activities of the Institute. The report of the past activities of the IIEP was communicated to the authorities of the Member States just within the statutory time limit (August of the year of the General Conference), and there was not enough time to consult it with a view to making proposals for the biennium. Two delegates specifically asked that the sums corresponding to both priorities should be allocated to the IIEP and six others expressed the wish that the Institute should not be deprived of the resources it needed to carry out its work successfully, in accordance with the expectations of the Member States.

(291) Five delegates drew attention to the multiplier effect of the Institute as regards training. The Institute should devolve its activities to regional and national institutions and universities which could ensure more effective links with administrators at the central, immediate and local levels in their own countries, providing a form of training rooted in the national situation. One delegate, referring more specifically to the annual training programme, drew attention to the fact that it had not been possible to carry out the stage of independent training in the country of origin entirely as planned. The trainees had not been seconded by their superiors, as they remained in their own countries. The delegate suggested that this period should be dropped or shortened and replaced by preparatory courses which could

provided by BREDA. With reference to the specialized units, one delegate remarked that the IIEP had not given adequate space in its training to theory and practice in countries with a very decentralized structure, where the State played little part and left educational policy to the public and to workers' organizations. Another delegate, raising the question of 'follow-up' for former trainees, suggested that the Institute should make a study to discover what kind of work was being done by planners and administrators after their training at IIEP. That would make it possible, where necessary, to organize refresher courses for former trainees. He also regretted the lack of fellowships for candidates from Latin America. Another speaker stressed the importance of giving special treatment to candidates from the most disadvantaged countries.

(292) On the subject of research, one delegate requested that the nature of the links between training and research should be clarified. Another stressed the need for research in countries where basic information was often non-existent. One delegate thought that the Institute had lost touch with the Third World and that its studies had become theoretical, academic and remote from reality, while the content of its publications was becoming obscure. He also suggested that an independent evaluation of IIEP's activities should be carried out in order to discover its shortcomings. Other speakers wished to see closer co-operation between IIEP and the Regional Offices and complementarity in their training activities.

(293) One delegate expressed the view that IIEP had begun a very laudable process of renewal and adjustment. While its three research themes seemed appropriate and reflected genuine priorities, the Institute should place increasing emphasis on the inter-relationship between educational planning and policy. The idea of using the results of research for the intensive courses organized in the countries directly concerned was, in his view, excellent. One delegate spoke of the new means employed in his country to cope with the reduction in resources for education while at the same time meeting the growing demand for schooling, and suggested that the Institute should initiate research work along those lines.

(294) On the subject of publications, one delegate suggested that in order to conduct a successful distribution policy, the Institute should establish a 'focal point' which would receive its publications and take charge of their circulation. Another delegate said that the Institute should not balk at publishing the conclusions of its research work in clear and unadulterated form.

(295) Two delegates asked IIEP to establish institutional links with

CINTERPLAN, whose Headquarters is in Caracas.

(296) With reference to Subprogramme IV.1.3: 'Resources for education', many delegates recognized its importance in view of the economic conditions prevailing today in most countries, both developing and industrialized, which decreased the availability of funds for educational development. The opinion of several delegates was that both the targets and the expected results outlined in paragraphs 04122 and 04123 were clear, well-defined and crucially important. Several speakers indicated their support for the activities aiming at an improved knowledge and management of scarce financial resources. One delegate stated that his country wished to be associated with those studies. Two speakers pointed out the importance of such studies for both industrialized and developing countries.

(297) One delegate, expressing the view that the objectives of Subprogramme IV.1.3 were in keeping with the policy lines of Unesco's second Medium-Term Plan, gave his support to all activities in paragraph 04124 and particularly to the case-studies on the financial implications of strategies co-ordinating the extension of primary education with adult literacy programmes in the framework of the regional projects and programmes for the eradication of illiteracy (paragraph 04124(d)), with which his country wished to be associated. Another delegate wished the studies on the financial implications of the increase in the movement of students between secondary and higher education (paragraph 04124(c)) to be given top priority. One speaker, referring to the interregional training workshop for the least-developed countries on the mobilization and use of internal resources for education (paragraph 04124(a)), expressed the hope that, because of its importance, it would be open to any other developing countries which so desired. One delegate stressed the importance of using local resources, especially in the production of educational materials, so as to reduce costs and the dependence of countries on foreign assistance.

(298) With regard to the 'mobilization of external resources', several speakers emphasized the necessity and the importance at the present stage, of studying education systems with a view to establishing priority fields and projects in accordance with national priorities. This was particularly important in view of the disproportion between needs in the field of education and the availability of financial resources. In that respect, activities for the identification and preparation of projects aiming at a more regional utilization of internal and mobilization of external resources were supported. One delegate pointed out that such

Programme Commissions

missions and, in general, the operational activities of Unesco were very useful for the countries and supported their continuation and strengthening. While supporting the activities outlined in paragraph 04112(e),(f) and (g) and regretting the low level of resources allotted to them, one speaker stated that the overall allotment for Sub-programme IV.1.3 should be reduced. Among the activities aimed at mobilizing external resources for education, those undertaken in close co-operation with the regional development banks, the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP and other institutions of the United Nations system were particularly supported by a great number of speakers. Several delegates emphasized the usefulness of such co-operative undertakings in assisting countries in their educational development efforts, and the need to continue such programmes for their benefit. One delegate, although not against the programme of co-operation between the World Bank and Unesco, proposed a decrease in the sums allocated to it in view of the overall budgetary constraints facing the Organization. He referred particularly to the personnel cost related to the implementation of the co-operative programme, which he found extremely high. Another delegate suggested that a decrease in the funds allotted to that programme should be envisaged for the following biennium. A few speakers noted that the importance of the amount allotted to that programme merited a fuller explanation of the related activities. With regard to the advisory services provided as part of co-operation with the World Bank, one delegate hoped that measures would be taken so as not to upset the priorities established by Member States, but rather to tie in with them. Several delegates expressed their satisfaction with the operational projects and requested that they should be strengthened.

Reply by the Director of the International Institute for Educational Planning

(299) After thanking the speakers for their expression of confidence, the Director of IIEP replied to comments made on the presentation of the Institute's activities and the corresponding appropriations. Paragraphs 04115(a) and 04117(c) might, it was true, be open to the interpretation that it was proposed to allocate considerable sums to IIEP solely for programme purposes. In fact, the amounts shown for those two paragraphs alone represented two-thirds of the overall budget allocated to the Institute, and over 70 per cent of those sums covered the remuneration of staff who were responsible for research, teaching and the drafting of publications. Greater clarity in the presentation of the Institute's activities

and their cost was therefore necessary in the future. Because of the Institute's timetable, it was not possible to submit details of its activities for a future biennium to the General Conference, since IIEP's Governing Board approved its programme and its budget only when the resources made available to it by the General Conference were known. Furthermore, the Institute's programme and budget were still prepared on an annual and not a biennial basis. It should, however, be possible to provide the General Conference with an outline programme by revising the timetable of work of the Institute's Governing Board, to which a plan along those lines would be submitted.

(300) In reply to a delegate who had expressed the view that the Institute's research work was too theoretical, the Director said that an independent evaluation of IIEP in 1982 had pointed to the specific nature of the role played by the Institute, where practitioners and researchers from all over the world came together and where research, supplemented by empirical observations, was used to enhance training, giving it a pragmatic character.

(301) The Director of IIEP confirmed that priority was given to the training of educators and to the establishment of networks of national training institutions. He said that the initial phase of the annual training course would be shortened and replaced by analyses of national education systems prepared by the trainees, while further training courses in statistics and economics would be organized in Paris. The Director said that the Institute now dealt with the theory and practice of educational planning in the socialist countries in many specialized units of the annual training course. Trainee follow-up had shown that over 65 per cent of former trainees were still playing a decisive role in planning and education in their countries. With regard to research, the Institute worked only on the basis of case-studies and national monographs, and only synopses would make it possible to arrive at more general ideas. In 1986, IIEP would be beginning research on the cost and financing of education in a country which, as its delegate had said, was proceeding with a novel experiment in the optimization of educational resources.

(302) On the subject of publications, the Institute brought out original work which was much in demand, but it was difficult to ascertain whether it was distributed on a broad enough basis and to a sufficiently diversified public.

(303) In conclusion, the Director of the Institute expressed his thanks to the General Conference, the Chairman of the Governing Board and the Board itself, as well as to the

Director-General of Unesco and the Assistant Director-General for Education.

(304) The Chairman of the Governing Board of IIEP, in reply to a delegate, informed the Commission that, while the Board and the Executive Committee had adopted a resolution requesting that IIEP should be entitled to the first and second priorities stated in document 23 C/5, he felt that he should not dwell on their content because of the consensus decision of the Executive Board of Unesco regarding the Organization's budget. He in turn paid tribute to the small team at the Institute which was continuing its work despite the budgetary constraints.

Reply by the Director of the International Bureau of Education

(305) The Director of the International Bureau of Education noted the emphasis given by the delegates to the importance of the International Conference on Education (ICE). He indicated his appreciation of the comments of several delegates who suggested ways to improve the working methods of the Conference, for example, by increasing dialogue, improved and more lively working papers, the greater involvement of Member States in preparatory activities and greater follow-up of what happens to the recommendations. He indicated that each ICE is evaluated by participants, by the IBE Council, and, more recently through a survey of Member States concerning their needs which IBE can meet. He mentioned that methods of improving dialogue are being studied and that working papers for the next Conference would be prepared within Unesco, in close collaboration between IBE and the substantive units at Headquarters.

(306) The Director said that the question of frequency of the International Conference on Education was being studied by the Director-General and noted the suggestion of one delegate that IBE could hold smaller, more technical meetings in the interval between each ICE, should the ICE be held less often than every two years. He also pointed out that any change in frequency would require an amendment to the IBE statutes, which currently stated that the ICE must be held at least every two years.

(307) He responded to a number of other suggestions concerning the studies, documentation and information programme of IBE which, in part, referred to activities falling within discussion unit VI, and his comments relating to these activities are summarized at the end of that discussion unit.

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(308) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General welcomed

the fact that the debate had made it possible to position Major Programme IV clearly in the general scheme of the education programme. Many speakers had expressed support for training activities in the fields of educational planning and administration. In the context of discussion unit 5, the action of IIEP had been welcomed and that of IBE had also elicited favourable comment as well as some observations of which the Secretariat would take account. The debate had also highlighted the activities which, in the opinion of the Commission, deserved increased resources from the distribution of funds among the various types and forms of action.

(309) The representative of the Director-General extended his thanks to all delegations which had offered Unesco their co-operation during the debate, and in particular to the Minister of Education of Colombia who had reiterated the offer of her country to host, in 1986, the sixth Regional Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in Latin America and the Caribbean (MINEDLAC VI).

(310) The representative of the Director-General noted that one delegate had said that the industrialized countries had much to learn from the developing countries. Since they often had to face unfavourable conditions, the developing countries did indeed have to display a creative and innovatory spirit and it was precisely Unesco's role to ensure that such experience could benefit all Member States, thanks to international co-operation.

(311) Several delegates had emphasized the importance of the cultural dimension of education and of Unesco's work in that area. The proposals in document 23 C/5, particularly in Subprogramme IV.2.2 (or V.1.1 according to the option chosen), reflected that concern, which was shared by Member States, the Executive Board and the Director-General. Furthermore, many of the activities to promote, in education, a more open approach to cultural goals featured as first priority in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

(312) A great many comments had concerned the organization, frequency and expected results of regional conferences of ministers of education, and of the International Conference on Education. The Secretariat would endeavour to complete the study proposed in paragraph 04107(g) of document 23 C/5 on the frequency of those conferences with a view to the preparation of document 24 C/5, towards the end of 1986. That complex question, which had repercussions on the whole of the Organizations programme, both biennial and medium-term, in the field of education, should be examined in accordance with procedures which remained to be determined, in consultation with the Regional Offices and IBE. The representative of the Director-General noted that the

Programme Commissions

views expressed had sometimes been divergent, some delegates wishing to extend and others to reduce the interval between the regional conferences of ministers of education.

(313) With regard to the International Conference on Education (ICE), whose linkage with the ministerial conferences was important, the representative of the Director-General observed that any decision to modify the two-year interval would require a similar modification of the statutory provisions adopted in that respect by the General Conference. The IBE Council, he recalled, evaluated the results of each ICE session and IBE sent out a questionnaire to Member States to determine the follow-up action to be taken on the recommendations adopted. Participation of Member States in the ICE was always very extensive, as was the representation of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and of the teachers' associations concerned.

(314) In reply to a question from a delegate, the representative of the Director-General stated that the intellectual co-operation prompted by the regional conferences of ministers of education often yielded substantial results in terms of practical action. For instance, the idea of the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean had been put forward by the Regional Conference of Ministers of Education held for that region in 1979 (MINEDLAC V), and the idea of the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa had arisen at the MINEDAF V Conference.

(315) Commenting on the proposal to hold, in 1987, the fourth Conference of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe Region (MINEDEUROPE IV - paragraph 04107(c)), the representative of the Director-General said that the previous conference - MINEDEUROPE III - had been held in 1980 and observed that changing social conditions in the Europe region in the present decade were confronting its education systems with fresh challenges. The Director-General had therefore considered that an exchange of information between those responsible for education in the region would be of value for the preparation of measures to make those systems more relevant and effective, in the light of the results of regional and international co-operation. The holding of the Conference in 1987 would mean that its recommendations could be taken into consideration in the preparation of the next medium-term plan.

(316) The representative of the Director-General, referring to the reply of the Director of the International Bureau of Education to the debate concerning the Bureau, stated that the Secretariat had duly noted the observations, both laudatory and critical, made by delegates and would endeavour to introduce the improvements they had

requested. It had also taken note of the observation of one delegate who had stated that the computerization of information exchanges within the international network, while in itself entirely desirable, might limit access to it for countries in which potential users had not yet received the additional technical training required.

(317) With regard to the IIEP, the representative of the Director-General referred to the information provided in the reply to the debate by the Director of the Institute and assured members that the question of the presentation of IIEP's programme and budget in document 24 C/5 would be examined in the light of the wishes of several delegates, with the aim of providing more information and making it easier to understand. He said that the Institute's international activities, within its field of competence, and the regional activities of the offices for education were largely complementary. Furthermore, the IIEP and the Secretariat units offered each other mutual support in intellectual matters, particularly with regard to training.

(318) Referring to remarks made during the discussions, the representative of the Director-General informed the Commission that 82 per cent of the funds committed during the first 18 months of the 1984-1985 biennium to the Organization's educational programmes as a whole had concerned field activities.

(319) In reply to delegates who had queried the total budgetary appropriation for Programme IV.1, the representative of the Director-General said that its size stemmed partly from the inclusion of appropriations for the IIEP and IBE and estimates for major ministerial conferences, and partly from the fact that the implementation of the wide-ranging educational programmes proposed particularly under Major Programme II, required a considerable planning component under Programme IV.1.

(320) In reply to a delegate's question concerning the use of the resources allocated to Unesco's co-operation programme with the World Bank, the representative of the Director-General explained that the missions organized by Unesco under that programme, 75 per cent of the cost of which was met by the Bank, were intended to assist Member States, at their request, in making the wisest possible use of the loans or credits they obtained from the Bank, for example to prepare educational projects whose investment cost could range from \$10 million to over \$50 million. The studies of the field of education as a whole that were carried out under the co-operation programme with the World Bank also helped to meet the countries' other needs.

(321) Finally, the representative of the Director-General reminded one delegate that the Organization's consultative missions to Member States were

always carried out at their express request. Such requests were legion and some speakers would have wished to see an increase in the resources earmarked for that purpose in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987

Draft resolutions and other decisions

(322) The Commission then went on to consider: (i) draft resolutions referring to Programme IV.1 or to the relevant subparagraphs of Paragraph 10(a) of Proposed Resolution 4.1; (ii) the work plan corresponding to Programme IV.1; and (iii) the budget summary for Programme IV.1.

(323) The Commission decided: (i) to set up a working group composed of six delegates, one from each electoral group, (Mrs Kaisa Savolainen of Finland, Chairman, Mr Ghassan El-Kawass of the Syrian Arab Republic, Mr Sergio Florencio of Brazil, Mr A.S. Kakembo of Uganda, Dr Werner Koehler of the German Democratic Republic and Mr Noboru Noguchi of Japan) to consider - in the light of the decisions of the General Committee on the 'Method to be used by the Commissions for the examination of adjustments to the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (23 C/5)' and the 'Methods for examining document 23 C/DR.143' (Items 3 and 4 of the agenda of the General Committee of the General Conference, 'Journal of the General Conference' No. 9, 17 October 1985 - the draft resolutions which propose either transfers of resources from one major programme to another or, without budgetary compensation, changes in the priority ranking of activities proposed in document 23 C/5 or recommended in 121 EX/Decision 1.1 which the Executive Board adopted by consensus (documents 23 C/6 and 23 C/6 Add.); and (ii) to entrust this working group with the task of seeking the bases for a broad consensus for the Commission's examination of the following draft resolutions: 23 C/DR.143 and Addenda (United Kingdom), 23 C/DR.190 (USSR), 23 C/DR.38 (Nigeria) and 23 C/DR.63 (Nigeria).

(324) Regarding draft resolution 23 C/DR.67 (India), the Commission decided on the one hand to amend the final subparagraph of the operative part of the proposal to read as follows: 'Invites the Director-General to give particular attention to the recommendations of MINEDAP V in executing the activities set out in the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (23 C/5) particularly under Major Programmes II, IV and V, and to give encouragement and support to efforts by Member States aimed at implementing these recommendations', and on the other hand to substitute for the seventh paragraph of the preamble of the proposal the text proposed in paragraph 5 of the Note by the Director-General. The Commission decided to recommend that

the General Conference adopt the resolution proposed by India thus amended (23 C/Resolution 4.7);

(325) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General' and in view of the fact that the object of draft resolution 23 C/DR.196 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) was similar to that of draft resolution 23 C/DR.67 (India) referred to above, one of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 196 withdrew that proposal.

(326) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.122 (Switzerland) suggested amendments to its proposal. The Commission decided to transfer the amended version to the following discussion unit for its consideration.

(327) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.125 (German Democratic Republic), the Commission decided to modify the amendment proposed in the 'Note by the Director-General' to paragraph 10(a)(i) of proposed resolution 4.1, which would read as follows after '(MINEDLAC VI)': 'in 1986 and to prepare the fourth Conference (category II) of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe region (MINEDEUROPE IV) to be held in 1988'. It also decided to take note of the subsequent changes in the work plan corresponding to paragraph 04107(c) and of the reduction in the funds allocated to paragraph 04107(c) to \$140,000. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany submitted the following text for insertion in the report:

'With regard to the study on the frequency of conferences:

(a) aspects of increasing the internal efficiency of holding conferences should also be taken into account;

(b) aspects of appropriate timing of Unesco conferences with conferences of regional IGOs should be studied; and

(c) the interval of 8 years between the 3rd and 4th conferences which would result if MINEDEUROPE IV is held in 1988 as proposed, is not intended to serve as a guideline for this study'.

(328) The Commission decided to transfer draft resolution 23 C/DR.91 (Jordan) to the following discussion unit.

(329) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', the author of draft resolutions 23 C/DR.163 and 23 C/DR.160 (Venezuela) withdrew both of its proposals.

(330) In the case of draft resolution 23 C/DR.158 (France, Senegal, Spain), one of the co-sponsors submitted the following (underlined) amendments to its proposal:

The third preambular paragraph should read as follows:

'Noting, however, that the frequency of sessions of the International Conference on Education burdens the Bureau with organizational responsibilities to the detriment of its other activities';

The first operative paragraph should read as follows:

Programme Commissions

'Invites the Director-General to have an evaluation carried out of the methods ..., the rest remaining unchanged; The second operative paragraph should read as follows:

'Stipulates that this evaluation, the results of which will be submitted to the General Conference at its next session, should include ...', the rest remaining unchanged.

The Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the resolution thus amended. In reply to questions from the representative of the Director-General, one of the co-sponsors stated that paragraph 4 of the draft resolution was not, of course, intended to predetermine any decisions taken by the present session of the General Conference regarding the resources of IBE. With regard to paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, the same delegate specified that the reference to the share of the regular budget resources devoted to IBE applied to first-priority activities.

(331) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.38 (Nigeria) withdrew all its proposals except for the point relating to paragraph 04107(f). The Commission decided to refer the draft resolution thus amended to the above-mentioned working group for its consideration.

(332) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.130 (France) changed the numbering of the paragraphs relating to Major Programme IV in subparagraph (a) of the operative paragraph to read 'paragraphs 65 to 76'. The Commission decided:

(a) to amend the resolution proposed for Major Programme IV on the basis of subparagraphs (a), as amended, and (b) of the operative paragraph of draft resolution DR.130;

(b) to recommend to the General Conference:

(i) that it place in reserve under Part IX the activities set out in paragraph 04108(a) of document 23 C/5;

(ii) that it make the changes to Part II.A and the overall budget for Major Programme IV that secured a consensus in Commission II following the recommendations of the working group.

(333) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', one of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.215 (Australia, India, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) withdrew that proposal.

(334) As suggested in draft resolution 23 C/DR.116 (German Democratic Republic), the Commission decided to amend paragraph 10(b)(II) of proposed resolution 4.1.

(335) The Commission noted that it had referred draft resolution 23 C/DR.143 and Addenda (United Kingdom) to the above-mentioned working group for its consideration.

(336) The Commission then decided to recommend to the General Conference that it take note of the work plan corresponding to Programme IV.1, with the accepted amendments as previously specified, it being understood that other amendments might be made on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(337) The Commission also recommended that the General Conference take note of the budget summary set out in paragraph 04101 of document 23 C/5, with the accepted amendments as previously specified, it being understood that other amendments might be made on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 6

Introduction of Programmes IV.2, IV.3 and IV.4

(338) The representative of the Director-General introduced discussion unit 6, consisting of Programmes IV.2, IV.3 and IV.4.

(339) A special effort had been made in Programme IV.2: 'The educational sciences and their application to the renewal of the educational process', to concentrate the programme by merging activities. Two options were proposed for the programme. The first would involve transferring one part of the activities under Programme V.1: 'Education, culture and communication', to Subprogramme IV.2.2: 'Improvement of the content of education', and the other part to Subprogramme IV.2.3: 'Improvement

of educational methods'. If that option were approved, Programme V.1 would cease to exist as a separate programme. The second option involved keeping those activities in Programme V.1.

(340) The proposals under Subprogramme IV.2.1: 'Promotion of studies and research in the educational sciences and of educational innovations', constituted the second stage in a long-term project aimed at achieving better co-ordination between research and the needs expressed by education officials and educators. It was supplemented by activities aimed at the wider dissemination of research findings and their application to practical problem-solving. Particularly high priority had been given to activities relating to the regional and subregional networks of

educational innovation, whose impact in the Member States concerned was to be evaluated.

(341) The representative of the Director-General said that the 'Prospects' would continue to be published in the six official languages of Unesco. Financial support for new complete editions or selections in other languages had had to be proposed only as a second priority.

(342) A basic objective of the programme, especially Subprogramme IV.2.2: 'Improvement of the content of education', was to propose activities covering all conceptual and methodological aspects of the renewal of the content of education, laying emphasis on striking a balance between different types of content. The purpose of a new proposal was the integration of various interdisciplinary subjects - population education, environmental education, nutrition education and preventive education dealing with the problems stemming from the use of licit and illicit drugs.

(343) Subprogramme IV.2.3: 'Improvement of educational methods', sought to promote and diversify, in conjunction with the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, activities aimed at identifying and securing the place of data-processing in the content and methods of education. The activities proposed under Subprogramme IV.2.3, in association with Programme II.6 in some cases, were also linked to other data-processing activities under Subprogrammes IV.1.2, V.2.1, V.3.2 and V.5.1.

(344) The representative of the Director-General noted that Programme IV.2 had a sizeable extra-budgetary operational component, since 81 projects were currently being implemented and, according to the estimates, it was planned to execute regional or national projects amounting to over \$20.6 million in 1986-1987.

(345) The appropriations for Programme IV.3: 'Policies and methods for the training of educational personnel', would be 8.7 per cent greater than in the approved budget for the preceding biennium. In addition, it was proposed to increase substantially the share of appropriations allocated to Subprogramme IV.3.2: 'Improvement of the pre-service and in-service training of educational personnel', because it contained a high concentration of practical training and further training activities.

(346) With regard to Subprogramme IV.3.1: 'Integrated training policies and plans and the status of educational personnel', the representative of the Director-General stressed the purely exploratory nature of the studies to be carried out on the possible revision of the 1966 Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, the possible preparation of a convention on the same subject and the advisability of a

recommendation concerning higher education personnel. These studies would be carried out jointly by Unesco and ILO, who were aware of the variety of views already expressed on the matter and would merely seek to provide as objective and exhaustive an account of them as possible before drawing the appropriate conclusions.

(347) Subprogramme IV.3.2: 'Improvement of the pre-service and in-service training of educational personnel', provided for a varied range of training activities primarily intended for so-called 'multiplier effect' personnel. Some of those activities were designed more particularly for educational personnel in the least developed countries, and most of them would be decentralized.

(348) Programme IV.3 included an extra-budgetary component amounting to US \$5,000,000, essentially aimed at strengthening national teacher-training institutions.

(349) The representative of the Director-General pointed out that the objective of Programme IV.4: 'Means and infrastructures - information systems, educational facilities and educational industries', was to continue the action undertaken in 1984-1985 to assist Member States to equip themselves with the facilities and infrastructures essential for any educational system.

(350) It was proposed in Subprogramme IV.4.1: 'Development of exchange of information on education', that the IBE should continue to develop its information and documentation activities, particularly through the publication of an information Newsletter and Bulletin, and the preparation of information files for education officials and editors of specialized journals. The IBE, which was called upon to play a methodological role in all the Organization's information and documentation activities relating to education, would work towards extending and improving the International Information Network on Education (INED). In accordance with the directives of the Executive Board (120 EX/Decision 4.1, paragraph 34), a recapitulatory list of the information activities undertaken by the Organization was set out at the end of Major Programme IV.

(351) As regards educational facilities, the activities proposed under Subprogramme IV.4.2 were designed to provide Member States with support for the strengthening of their national capacities for the planning, design, construction and management of educational buildings and facilities. A further objective was the reduction of construction costs by encouraging the use of local materials and techniques. Member States would be provided with assistance with a view to the application of norms for the construction of buildings to withstand earthquakes and other natural disasters. This

Programme Commissions

subprogramme would be evaluated in 1986-1987.

(352) The objective of the activities proposed in Subprogramme IV.4.3: 'Development of educational industries', was to bring about, in the short term, an improvement in the conditions in which educational materials and equipment were produced and distributed in the developing countries and, in the medium term, to encourage the establishment of the necessary infrastructures and to strengthen national planning and management capacities in that field. The representative of the Director-General stated that it was planned to pursue the execution of extra-budgetary projects amounting to US \$8,250,000.

Programme IV.2: The educational sciences and their application to the renewal of the educational process

(353) Fifty-five delegates took the floor on Programme IV.2. They expressed their satisfaction at a programme described by different speakers in turn as well prepared, clearly presented and more effectively concentrated than in document 22 C/5. They felt that this substantive programme, designed to fuel the other programmes on education, lay at the heart of the Organization's concerns. They expressed the hope that it would effectively help to renew the educational process, improve national structures, enhance the performance of education systems and bring to light specific solutions to the educational problems of Member States and, more especially, of the developing countries. One speaker said that the reform of education along scientific lines called for a mobilization effort on the part of the Organization and Member States comparable to that demanded by literacy training.

(354) Several speakers were pleased to note that the programme established closer links between theory and practice and between reflection and action. In the view of one speaker, the programme should henceforth give priority to improving school textbooks and to teacher training. Another stressed the need to distinguish between research methodologies, which could be universal, and consideration of practical teaching methods, which should take account of the social, cultural and geographical context. He said there was a need for new methods for the training of teacher educators based on scientific analysis of actual educational situations. He felt that the educational sciences should help to broaden the minds of teacher trainers and called for a new scientific spirit among them so that they could make an objective analysis of their teaching practises and incorporate research findings in them and, possibly, take part in educational research themselves.

(355) Several participants stressed the importance their countries attached to the educational sciences. In one country, they represented a priority field in an approach that brought together science, education and production. In another country the educational sciences were the mainspring of educational reform. A number of speakers described the reforms that had been introduced in their countries on the basis of research findings.

(356) Several speakers expressed satisfaction at the scale of the extra-budgetary activities conducted during the 1984-1985 biennium and planned for the 1986-1987 biennium. One representative noted that the multiplier effect of such projects depended on the quality of their administrators. A number of delegates hoped that their countries might obtain financial and technical assistance under the programme.

(357) While appreciating the efforts made to improve the programme, two speakers still considered that the ratio of staff appropriations to programme appropriations was high, as staff costs accounted for over 60 per cent of the total. Another speaker felt that 29 per cent was an unduly large increase for the Participation Programme. While one speaker regarded the share of the funds allocated to Programme IV.2 as inadequate, another considered that this share should be reduced in favour of Programmes IV.3 and IV.4. He said that the content and methods of education were sensitive national concerns on which international action had little impact. He had strong reservations on the very concept of educational reform which, in his view, was respectable but largely theoretical.

(358) Thirty-seven delegates took the floor on Subprogramme IV.2.1: 'Promotion of studies and research in the educational sciences and of educational innovations'. Many of them stressed that this subprogramme should help to achieve better co-ordination between research and practice at all levels, from pre-school to adult education. Others pointed out that it was not the Organization's role to engage in research itself but to co-operate with Member States in national research, taking their particular context into consideration. One speaker urged that national researchers should be associated to a greater extent and more directly in the execution of subprogramme activities, which should be effectively decentralized beyond the level of the Regional Offices.

(359) One delegate gave a favourable welcome to that subprogramme which made it possible to stand back a little from everyday practice. She stressed the need for constant monitoring of the direction taken by educational action, particularly in the case of educational innovation which tended to be prepared slowly and applied in haste. Another

speaker said that evaluation should constantly be associated with innovative practice.

(360) Several participants stressed the importance attached by their countries to determining by means of research how to bring about an effective reduction of scholastic failure. One delegate said that in her opinion, only a concerted international effort would achieve anything in that field.

(361) Several speakers referred to the joint studies carried out by the National Commissions of the Europe region. One speaker said that out of the fourteen studies planned in 1982, nine had already been completed or would be completed in 1986. He made an offer for the holding once more, in his country, of a general co-ordination meeting to launch a second series of studies and to elaborate common methods.

(362) Several participants spoke of the co-operation by their countries in those studies, in which they had played a co-ordinating role. They hoped that the programme would be strengthened and receive greater support from Unesco so that the results could be made available not only in the Europe region but in other parts of the world as well. Some speakers stressed that those studies should contribute to peace and international understanding.

(363) A number of participants expressed their full support for the regional consultations planned in regard to educational research policies and for the subregional workshops organized by national institutions to facilitate better use of research findings.

(364) Seventeen speakers made reference to the regional and subregional co-operative networks of educational innovation (paragraph 04206). All of them warmly supported the work carried out by the networks and expressed their full satisfaction with the results achieved. Several delegates emphasized that the networks are an effective instrument for reaching the goal of action-oriented, practical projects. Others stressed the fact that the networks facilitate direct co-operation among the participating institutions and countries, especially among developing countries. The speakers were unanimous in recommending that the networks should be given high priority and further strengthened and extended. A draft resolution was introduced by one delegate to that effect.

(365) Several speakers from the Asian and Pacific region spoke in favour of APEID. Two speakers referred to the UNDP funding which is coming to an end. One delegate announced that her government was prepared to give consideration to offering a voluntary contribution to APEID. A draft resolution was introduced aiming at strengthening and reinforcing APEID's co-operative action in Asia and the Pacific.

(366) Three speakers made special reference to NEIDA, saying that their countries profited from their participation in it. One delegate emphasized that NEIDA, which was still relatively new, had to be developed further and to be consolidated. The evaluation of the networks foreseen under paragraph 04206 was welcomed.

(367) CARNEID was supported, delegates saying that it was of strategic importance for the development of educational innovation in the Caribbean. One delegate said that she would like to see CARNEID more directly involved in curriculum development and in the training of educational personnel.

(368) Six speakers from southeast Europe spoke in favour of CODIESEE. They said that CODIESEE was a good example of subregional co-operation and that their institutions had been enriched. Two of them mentioned specific activities in which their countries participated. They were unanimous in emphasizing that the network should be further strengthened and experiences shared with other countries. Two draft resolutions were introduced to that effect.

(369) Prospects, the quarterly review of education, was praised by each of the six speakers who referred to it. They stated that the review was well received and widely used in their countries and that it had to be considered as a very valuable instrument for stimulating reflection and exchanging experiences. One delegate said that Prospects even had an operational impact because it brought fresh ideas to the countries and helped to create among researchers, teachers and administrators an awareness of the need for innovation and educational development.

(370) Two participants supported the publication of the review in the Organization's six working languages, but asked that other less widely-spoken languages should also receive financial support for the unabridged publication of the review. One of those speakers saw in that a kind of 'discrimination' between the working languages and all the others in the transmission of the universally useful message of Prospects. They expressed the wish that the editions mentioned as being of second priority in paragraph 04208 should be transferred to first priority, referring to the decisions of the Executive Board which recommended encouragement for the publication of Unesco's works in a greater number of national languages.

(371) Another speaker expressed the wish that provision should be made for an edition in the language of his country, Portuguese, and that it should be placed among the first priority activities in paragraph 04208.

(372) One delegate wanted to know why his country was no longer entrusted with publishing one of the editions in a

Programme Commissions

working language, for which it had formerly been responsible, and he hoped that the Organization would reconsider its position.

(373) Two speakers informed the Commission of the publication of selected articles from the review in the languages of their countries. Another speaker suggested that use should be made of external, governmental or private, publishing houses in order to reduce the cost of publication and distribution that the Organization had to bear.

(374) Thirty-five delegates stressed their countries' interest in Sub-programme IV.2.2: 'Improvement of the content of education'. Nineteen were in favour of Option 1 and four in favour of Option 2.

(375) Several speakers mentioned with approval the activities relating to the integration, balance and relevance of the content of general education. One speaker, emphasizing the scale of the efforts needed to improve the relevance of education as a whole, recommended that the efforts of the programme be concentrated initially on the objectives of compulsory education. He stressed that the interdisciplinary approach offered one possible way of dealing with the problem of failure at school. Two speakers drew attention to the results achieved through the Organization's increased co-operation with the Unesco Institute for Education (UIE) in Hamburg in regard to research, promotion and the publicizing of studies concerning the development of general education curricula in the context of lifelong education. They felt that those efforts should be continued. One of them, after referring to the constant support that his country had been giving the Institute since its foundation, expressed the need for delegating Unesco staff from Headquarters to UIE. He also hoped that there would be more voluntary contributions to the Institute from Member States, in accordance with the resolution in paragraph 04801, so that the Institute's potential could be utilized to the full.

(376) Several speakers stressed the importance of the activities relating to the promotion of ethical values through education (paragraph 04215) and the need to link those activities closely with those bearing on education for peace and for international solidarity. One participant supported the activities planned to assist the defence of traditional values, which he considered were threatened by the modern world. Another described the reform under way in his country to assert the values of Islam. A third referred to the way in which school-community relations had been developed in his country. One speaker, however, considered that the expression 'promotion of a modern humanism' was ambiguous and undesirable in that it could be interpreted as implying the rejection of certain values.

(377) Seventeen speakers stressed the importance of the programme concerning the teaching of mother tongues and national languages (paragraph 04216). One speaker considered that those languages played a vital role in the safeguarding and development of cultural identity and stressed the need for co-ordinating the activities of educators, cultural experts and communications specialists. One delegate stressed the need for striking a balance between the mother tongue and a foreign language in teaching in schools, so that learning the one did not prevent the study and use of the other. One delegate said that in her country, despite considerable efforts on the part of the teachers, children at the end of primary education were as weak in their mother tongue as in the foreign language. Some delegates stressed the importance of the teaching of mother tongues not only in the case of developing countries but in developed countries as well. One of them stressed the need for better organization of the teaching of those languages for native populations and immigrant groups. In all cases, those speakers were of the opinion that Unesco's assistance would be very useful.

(378) One delegate emphasized the importance of studying the vast experience of his country, where teaching in school was given in over a hundred languages. Among the speakers of such languages, there were peoples numbering only a few thousand individuals. In his opinion, it could be of interest, particularly for developing countries which sometimes had linguistic problems that were difficult to solve, to learn about the solutions applied in his country.

(379) One delegate proposed that one of the pilot projects for improving the teaching of mother tongues and national languages and for the preparation of teaching materials, should take place in his country. That activity was planned under the Horizon 2000 project. Speaking on behalf of a non-governmental organization, one observer said that he was ready to co-operate in the implementation of that activity.

(380) Several delegates expressed the wish that Unesco should make available in a more effective way the results of experiments in Member States concerning methods used in teaching mother tongues and national languages in association with foreign languages.

(381) Several speakers stressed the attention devoted by their countries to the teaching of foreign and second languages. One delegate spoke of his country's interest in the organization, in 1987, of a consultation on content and methods that could contribute, in the teaching of foreign languages and literature, to international understanding and peace. Another delegate proposed that that consultation should be organized in Africa.

(382) One speaker stressed the need

for promoting language teaching in school with the aim of communication which, in his opinion, was extremely important in multilingual countries. One delegate stressed the efforts made by his country to provide a good knowledge of a widely-spoken foreign language as part of general education, saying that knowledge of a language for professional use was added at the stage of higher education. That delegate expressed his country's gratitude to Unesco for its collaboration, and he hoped that further assistance would be available for the improvement of teaching methods. One speaker drew the Commission's attention to the Council of Europe project 'Languages in the Service of the Community'.

(383) One delegate spoke of the reform of education in her country, stressing the considerable importance attached in that reform to improving language teaching. She expressed her appreciation of the language programme actions which could help Member States to increase the effectiveness of education.

(384) Six speakers indicated the value that they attached to the inclusion of subject-matter linked to the quality of life, proposed in paragraph 04217. Three said that it was a matter of strengthening links between school and the environment, and one of them said that the task of education was to lift the child towards the universal without uprooting him. Two speakers said that the concept of quality of life could not be dissociated from the defence of peace and from humanist values.

(385) The attention of many speakers was turned to activities relating to education to prevent drug abuse. One speaker regretted that those activities, like those concerned with population matters, remained reduced in the programme. Seven speakers stressed the need for an accentuation, at national and at international level, of education against drug abuse which they called a form of slavery, a scourge of mankind, and a world tragedy. Two speakers expressed their anxiety at seeing young people take to drugs at an earlier and earlier age. One delegate stressed the need for the full integration of subject-matter relating to drug abuse in the curricula of general education. Two speakers expressed the wish that the Organization should increase its efforts to encourage the training of teachers and the production of specialized materials in that field. Another speaker said that effective action called for good interministerial co-operation, particularly with ministers for youth. Another speaker expressed the wish that the Organization could make an interdisciplinary team of specialists available to his country.

(386) In several statements relating

to paragraph 04218, it was emphasized that the cultural dimension in education could be considered to be of the same importance as science and technology. Some speakers, concerned at seeing Major Programme V.1 merged with Major Programme IV.2, urged Unesco to maintain the activities related to culture and the cultural heritage at their present level. Several speakers expressed their interest in the preparation of educational materials relating to the national cultural heritage foreseen under paragraph 04218 (a).

(387) Several delegates stressed the need to develop the use of the media for educational purposes.

(388) One delegate expressed the wish that the Organization would take measures to facilitate the use of communication satellites in order to spread educational innovations to Member States. One delegate spoke about the activities of her country in using the communication media for education, making particular mention of a seminar for radio and television producers.

(389) One delegate expressed the importance of the educational activities of museums and drew attention to the co-operation of the museums in his country with the IBE information system.

(390) During the discussion of Subprogramme IV.2.3: 'Improvement of educational methods', 20 delegates spoke in favour of Option 1 (transfer of the activities of Subprogramme V.1.2) and four in favour of Option 2.

(391) Three speakers addressed the activities designed to improve and renew teaching methods in educational establishments (paragraph 04233). Two delegates stressed the importance of publishing Arabic and Chinese versions of the glossary of educational technology terms and therefore wished subparagraph (c) to be given first priority. The observer from an international intergovernmental organization offered its support for the publication of a methodological guide on teaching experience under adverse conditions.

(392) Most speakers referred to the activities proposed in connection with the use of new information and communication technologies in education (paragraph 04234). Almost all of them underlined the importance and urgency of this question.

(393) Several delegates stressed the need to study the influence of the use of informatics on the psychological development of children. One delegate proposed the convening of a new conference on children in the world of informatics, as a follow-up to the meeting held in Varna (Bulgaria) in 1985. Several delegates supported the proposal to begin preparations during the forthcoming budgetary period for an international congress (category IV) on informatics and education, to be held in 1988 or 1989.

(394) Several delegates described the attempts made in their countries to introduce the use of computers throughout the school system and expressed the hope that a wide-ranging exchange of experience with other Member States would develop in this new field of informatics for all. Some considered that the Organization should attempt to spread the use of new technologies in the teaching of all subjects. One delegate underlined their usefulness for the education of the handicapped (paragraph 04234 (b)).

(395) Most speakers laid stress on suitable training for primary and secondary school teachers as a prerequisite for the successful integration of the new technologies.

(396) Several speakers were in favour of encouraging the production of specifically educational software on an international basis. They considered that priority should be given to drawing up international standards for both hardware and software.

(397) Other speakers emphasized that Unesco should proceed with caution when participating in the process of introducing those technologies into developing countries, particularly in view of their current state of unpreparedness, the dangers of culture shock that that innovation might provoke, and the considerable cost that could be involved. One participant stated that his country's experience in the field of educational informatics had been encouraging.

(398) Other participants stressed the need to provide an introduction to informatics not only to pupils in developed countries but also to those in the developing countries, in a context of effective democratization, so as to avoid accentuating even further the technological imbalance among nations. One participant considered that Unesco had an important role to play in suggesting strategies adaptable to each country's specific conditions in the context of the broadest possible international co-operation. One delegate recommended that the various international organizations concerned should co-operate closely in that field, so as to avoid overlapping and duplication.

(399) Several speakers expressed the hope that Unesco would place emphasis on the circulation of the findings of experiments conducted throughout the world, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries. Three delegates offered to make available the experience acquired by their countries with regard to the use of technology in education. Another delegate welcomed the publications already issued by Unesco in that field and invited it to intensify its efforts.

(400) Several speakers emphasized the important role of broadcasting in non-formal education, particularly in

rural areas. Two of them made particular reference to the activities of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) for the development of national projects in that field. They emphasized the place of radio broadcasts in the context of the Regional Programme for the Eradication of Illiteracy in Africa and the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean. Several speakers expressed their interest in the regional scheme for the evaluation of projects using communication technologies for educational purposes in Asia (paragraph 04234 (d)).

Programme IV.3: Policies and methods for the training of educational personnel

(401) Forty-six speakers referred to Programme IV.3. They recognized its importance and gave it their support, seeing the training of educational personnel as an essential concern of Unesco. That training, they emphasized, must include not only teachers for all levels but also teacher educators, principals of educational establishments, administrators, educational counsellors and others. They approved the priorities proposed by the Executive Board and also voiced the intention of their countries to participate fully in implementing the entire programme or specific parts of it.

(402) Some delegates nevertheless expressed disappointment that the programme had not been allocated more substantial financial resources, one delegate expressing the hope that for the next biennium, a larger proportion of resources would be made available to it. While acknowledging that training activities had been given a larger place in Major Programme IV, other delegates considered that the budget provisions in that area were not sufficient to meet the needs of Member States. They proposed that the training activities be confined to the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries. Some delegates furthermore expressed the hope that the industrialized countries would offer some less favoured countries technical assistance through Unesco.

(403) Many delegates expressed their satisfaction regarding the nature of the proposed activities. The proposal to organize a number of workshops and training seminars helped to give Programme IV.3 an action-oriented character. They hoped that tendency would become more marked in the future. One delegate said that, in broad outline, Programme IV.3 met the needs of his country. In stressing the high priority accorded by their countries to training activities, certain delegates emphasized the need for more sustained support at the national level for the training programme.

(404) Several delegates stressed the need to establish training policies and plans of action and to develop teaching materials that would help teachers to play a role of growing importance in society. In particular they emphasized training in data-processing techniques, literacy teaching and the prevention of drug abuse.

(405) One speaker wondered about the factors that should be taken into consideration in the renewal of the teaching process. He stressed that the progress of education depended on factors entailing an ever-vigilant theoretical reflection, the enrichment of the practice of teaching by exchanges and contacts, and the application to education of the findings of scientific research and all the education sciences. He added that the introduction of the latter did not mean that the personal role of the teacher would diminish but it would no longer be purely intuitive, drawing on personal experience that might or might not be valid. The work of the teacher would have to draw upon and enrich itself from the most reliable sources of scientific research in education and reflect the constant concern to adapt curricula to social requirements and methods to the new conceptions of education.

(406) Other delegates also stressed the role of the educational sciences, in the practice and development of education. One delegate emphasized the vital role played by teaching in the educational process which, she said, was primarily an educational and interpersonal relationship that no development of teaching resources could replace. As a consequence, she added, the training of educational personnel was the thing on which all educational innovation hinged and it had to be taken into account in any reform project. Other speakers came to the same conclusion and stressed the importance of training the personnel who direct and manage schools.

(407) Many speakers mentioned the importance of the role of teachers in the progress of society. Several said that qualified university staff were vital for national progress and that special attention should therefore be given to the preparation of training programmes for teachers. Another delegate spoke of the very high pupil-teacher ratio in primary schools in his country and of the high illiteracy rate, and said that his country had launched a training programme for primary-school teachers, with the opening of new teacher-training colleges.

(408) Several delegates spoke of the educational reforms at present being carried out in their countries. One of the delegates said that in his country, the reform aimed to take account of social transformations and, in particular, of the introduction of computer

technology in schools. In another Member State, the reform was aiming at a long-term restructuring of the education system in order to meet the 'challenges of modern times' and to educate and train the greatest number of people. The reform was necessarily concerned with the initial and continuing training and the retraining of teachers. A third delegate said that the training and further training of teachers in his country had for two years now been transferred to university establishments. The first assessment of results was encouraging. Another delegate said that under the educational reform at present taking place in his country, teacher training aimed to make teachers not so much the dispensers of knowledge as practitioners better fitted to contribute to improving the objectives of education.

(409) Several delegates stressed the importance of training policies and plans which took account of the actual socio-economic situation of countries and of the new forms of teacher training which allowed for continuous interaction between theory and practice. Referring to Subprogramme IV.3.1 concerning the training of various categories of educational personnel, one delegate spoke of the technical collaboration which had been established between her country and Unesco in the matter of training educational personnel responsible for planning. Another delegate expressed his country's support for the workshop for the production of teaching material, provided for in paragraph 04305.

(410) Four speakers commented on action 2 under Subprogramme IV.3.1 and stressed the importance, for the purposes of reform, of education aimed at improving the status of teachers, in both professional and socio-economic terms. The representative of a non-governmental organization pointed out that the material situation and personal status of teachers was not always consonant with the eminent social role that they were recognized by everyone to fulfil. He pointed out that the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers adopted by the Member States of ILO and Unesco in 1966, most of whose principles were still very relevant, remained little-known; its application met with numerous obstacles and many States disregarded its provisions and denied teachers the guarantees it accorded them. The same speaker wanted the international organizations of the teaching profession to be more closely associated with supervision of the application of the 1966 Recommendation and with the studies undertaken on its development and possible updating. Such studies could provide the basis for a convention which would go further in committing Contracting States through closer reference to the many standard-setting regulations concerning employee-employer

relations. Unless the scope of the Recommendation was extended, he added, the teachers in higher education would not be covered by a standard-setting instrument.

(411) A great many delegates emphasized the importance accorded by their countries to the manifold activities under Subprogramme IV.3.2 which well aimed at improving the pre-service and in-service training of educational personnel through the introduction of innovations in education systems in order to meet the specific needs of their countries.

(412) Some delegates spoke of their countries' interest in the preparation of the synoptic study mentioned in paragraph 04312 (a). One of them said it was important that such synoptic studies should be carried out with the assistance of national education specialists in order to promote the exchange of experience between Member States.

(413) Several delegates spoke on the question of incorporating new content into curricula. They approved of the holding of the interregional seminar on the implications of such incorporation for the pre-service and in-service training of teachers, mentioned in paragraph 04312 (b)

(414) Several delegates said that their countries wished to co-operate, or to continue co-operating, with Unesco in regard to the pre-service and in-service training of teachers. One delegate said that his country hoped to benefit from Unesco's co-operation in the fields of primary, secondary and university education. Another delegate announced his country's decision to take steps to improve the training of teachers. A national centre for the further training of staff was being built and a teacher-training programme receiving technical assistance from Unesco had been set on foot. A third delegate, after emphasizing the high population density in his country, which was prompting the authorities to take steps to speed up the training of teachers, requested Unesco's assistance in that area. Another delegate urged the desirability of establishing technical co-operation among Member States for the benefit of the least advanced countries in greatest need of an intensive policy for the training of educational personnel.

(415) With regard to specific activities under Programme IV.3, one delegate put forward his country's offer to host a regional workshop on the in-service training of teachers. Another offered the services of his higher educational establishment for an educational workshop on a theme of the subprogramme. A third said that his country wished to take part in the activity covered by subparagraph 04312(g). Another expressed his country's interest in all the subprogramme activities concerning its region.

(416) Several delegates emphasized the importance of the training of teacher educators and of educational personnel who exert a multiplier effect. One delegate stressed that training with a multiplier effect was particularly appropriate in countries with limited resources, and said that her country wished to play an active part in the subprogramme activities. Another delegate informed the Commission of the success of projects undertaken with Unesco's co-operation in that field. A first training seminar organized with Unesco's assistance had brought together 57 educational advisers who had been given intensive training. Five further seminars had thereafter been organized entirely by the country itself, achieving full coverage of educational advisers in primary, secondary, general and technical education. The delegate said that her country intended to carry on co-operating with Unesco, especially on activities under subparagraphs 04312 (j) and (l).

(417) Several delegates spoke on the problem of drug abuse by young people, to which reference had already been made in the discussion on paragraph 04217. They were in favour of introducing material aimed at preventing drug abuse into school curricula and approved of the activity planned under subparagraph 04312 (b) to consider the implications of the incorporation of such material into pre-service and in-service teacher-training programmes.

(418) Some delegates also commented on the the extra-budgetary operational projects carried out in their countries. One of them expressed his appreciation of technical assistance designed to improve the quality of teaching staff. He added that his country was interested in taking part in regional and interregional activities in that field. The Ministry of Education and the universities were open to exchanges enabling other member countries to benefit from the experience gained. Another delegate expressed his country's appreciation of the work accomplished in the field of teacher training through a UNDP/Unesco project in an Institute of Education, and hoped that Unesco would continue to provide its support up to 1987. A third delegate described the advisory services that Unesco had made available to his country. They had led to the formulation of new proposals for the establishment of a decentralized system of in-service teacher-training centres, in respect of which a request for funding had been made to the UNDP.

Programme IV.4: Means and infrastructures - information systems, educational facilities and educational industries

(419) Nineteen delegates and one representative of an international

intergovernmental organization spoke on Programme IV.4. Most of the speakers said they appreciated the stress laid on helping to modernize the means of education in Member States (techniques, standards, management, production and distribution conditions) and likewise the efforts to promote maximum use of local resources and special features in the interests of self-reliance. They drew attention to the proportion of funds allocated to training and information in the three subprogrammes. Several speakers regretted that the funds available for this programme had been reduced in comparison with the previous biennium.

(420) Twelve participants spoke about the International Bureau of Education in the course of the discussion on Subprogramme IV.4.1: 'Development of exchange of information on education'. Five of them mentioned the role of IBE relating to documentation and information and referred in that connection to the International Information Network on Education (INED). One delegate said that IBE, as a world centre for documentation and information on education, should be accessible to all Member States.

(421) Several delegates wished to see a strengthening of the network's activities. Several delegates expressed their appreciation of the fact that IBE's programme for the next biennium made provision for the supply of computer equipment to certain national centres affiliated to INED in order to increase the network's efficiency. Two speakers, however, said that most developing countries were in danger of not being able to take advantage of the computerized services of INED because they did not have properly trained staff or adequate facilities. Unesco was therefore asked to assist them in that field. One delegate also stressed that information was frequently accumulated in centres which worked in a compartmentalized fashion. He expressed the wish for the establishment of a suitable system making it possible to select that information, circulate it and evaluate the use made of it.

(422) Another delegate expressed the wish for IBE to extend the field of its documentation and information on education by setting up a data bank covering fields as varied as general education, teaching methods, curricula, legislation and research. He said that with the aid of the relevant authorities and research workers, IBE could become the world focal point for continually updated information.

(423) Another speaker said that the Head of his delegation had, in plenary, expressed the wish for IBE to become the major centre for international educational comparisons which he felt that every State needed.

(424) Several delegations spoke of their wish to strengthen their co-operation with IBE, particularly as

regards information and documentation. One delegation stressed the importance which it attached to the Information Files and expressed its wish to contribute to them.

(425) Several speakers expressed satisfaction concerning IBE's studies and publications programme. The comparative study on the special theme of the International Conference on Education and the International Yearbook of Education were more specially appreciated. Stress was frequently laid on the useful nature of IBE's studies and publications. One delegation expressed its wish to play an active part in IBE's studies, particularly those concerned with innovations.

(426) Several speakers laid stress on the low level of IBE's human and financial resources in comparison with the extent of its programmes of activities, and requested that those resources should be increased rather than cut.

(427) Several other delegates criticized the IBE's programme of studies for not taking geographical distribution sufficiently into account in the choice of authors and case-studies.

(428) One speaker recalled that criticism had been levelled at IBE at the session of its Council held in January 1985 and at the 121st session of the Executive Board with regard to the proposals of the Director for the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 and with regard to the Bureau's management methods. Those seemed to overlap with certain activities of Headquarters or else to lie outside the statutory functions of IBE. He regretted very much that no information had been given about the measures taken since the last session of the IBE Council to put matters right. He said that IBE should keep to its Statutes and contribute to the essential work of Unesco of which it was an integral part. In his opinion, merging the various periodicals of IBE into one single bulletin was a costly and clumsy operation and he regretted that his country had not received, for nearly a year, any information bulletin from IBE. Finally, he considered that IBE's programme of studies did not seem to keep to the Organization's Medium-Term Plan and made no mention of peace education.

(429) Another delegate mentioned the criticism levelled at IBE at the 121st session of the Executive Board concerning its management methods, the inadequate preparation of some of its activities and the inflated costs that they entailed. He expressed his disquiet at the present situation of the Bureau and said that IBE's activities should be more closely co-ordinated with those of Headquarters in order to avoid overlap. He said that IBE should take care not to go beyond its functions and should see that it reacted more effectively to all the decisions and

Programme Commissions

recommendations made by the various bodies of Unesco, including the Executive Board.

(430) While reaffirming his country's support for the International Bureau of Education, another delegate asked the Director-General to undertake an internal study to evaluate IBE's working methods and functioning and the results achieved in recent years, paying particular attention to the impact of the frequency of the sessions of the International Conference on Education on the Bureau's work-load. In his view, that study would constitute a review that would make it possible to modify, re-align or even, at the appropriate time, supplement certain of IBE's activities.

(431) Another expressed full approval of paragraph 76 of the Executive Board's recommendations adopted at its 121st session (23 C/6), urging that IBE's activities should be strictly in keeping with its statutory functions.

(432) Lastly, as regards the distribution of IBE publications, which some speakers did not consider satisfactory, it was suggested that co-publications should be developed, thereby ensuring wider distribution and promoting several language versions.

(433) Following the debate, the delegate of Kenya, speaking as Vice-Chairman of the Council of IBE, expressed doubt as to the advisability of an internal evaluation study of IBE's activities and concern over its future, given the budgetary reductions proposed in DR.190.

(434) Subprogramme IV.4.2: 'Design and establishment of educational infrastructures and facilities', received warm support from all the 18 delegates who spoke on it. The actions set out in this subprogramme were seen as vital to the development of educational systems. Whilst stressing that the quality of school buildings was as important as teaching, some delegates mentioned the difficulties which were being encountered owing to lack of educational infrastructure.

(435) Many delegates indicated their willingness to participate in the exchange of information. One delegate noted that his country's wealth of knowledge as well as its specific studies in that area could contribute to that exchange of information. Another delegate offered to share the results of a useful school building project with interested countries, whilst others expressed interest in information on the design and construction of buildings to withstand hurricanes and other natural disasters.

(436) Several delegates made reference to the technical assistance which they had received in the past and called for continued activity in that area. Special consideration was

requested for assistance in the establishment of research and building units for educational facilities.

(437) Training of national specialists was an action accorded the highest priority and was supported by all delegates who spoke on this subprogramme. In this respect, two delegates called for an increase in the funds devoted to that action by an upgrading to first priority of paragraph 04414(b). In addition, one delegate noted that the development of locally qualified staff would help to reduce the external technical dependence of countries.

(438) Several delegates stressed the urgent need for continued activities related to the development of prototype buildings and furniture using appropriate technologies and local materials. One delegate emphasized that this was vital for reducing costs without a lowering of the quality of education. Another saw that this was important, as the school building is a basic requirement which has to be economical and adapted to the environment. In that connection, there was support for the necessity of community involvement in school construction and also the construction of multifunctional facilities. There was also one request for the upgrading to first priority of paragraph 04415(b) and (c).

(439) Finally, two delegates expressed support for the proposed evaluation of the impact of the activities of the entire subprogramme.

(440) Speaking on Subprogramme IV.4.3: 'Development of educational industries', one delegate stressed the importance of books and teaching materials and expressed special regret at the drastic cut-back to which the subprogramme had been subjected. One speaker recalled that textbooks were a key element of the educational system and called upon the Organization to take more vigorous action to help Member States in preparing textbooks in keeping with local conditions, particularly in rural areas. The representative of an international intergovernmental organization stressed the effort of co-ordination that had already been made at the regional level with the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation in order to develop primary school textbooks.

(441) Several speakers expressed their interest in activities to encourage the production of low-cost educational materials making use of existing local resources. One delegate hoped that the training of local specialists to replace international staff in that area would be speeded up. One speaker emphasized that the Organization should promote the manufacture of prototypes and modules for large-scale production.

(442) The regional training courses for producers of educational material

and the administrators in charge of it attracted the attention of several participants. One delegate welcomed the fact that a course was to be held in the Latin America region. Another wanted a similar course to be held in Africa during the 1988-1989 biennium at the latest.

Reply by the Director of the International Bureau of Education

(443) The Director of the International Bureau of Education noted that a number of delegations had strongly supported IBE's special role within Unesco as a centre of comparative educational studies and of educational documentation and information. He referred to the co-operation between the units at Unesco Headquarters and the IBE, and especially the plans for IBE to link by computer with the Headquarters documentation centre and to co-ordinate closely with documentation centres of Unesco units in the field.

(444) In response to questions concerning working methods at IBE, he noted that IBE's studies and information activities could be seen as a unified process. Studies and analyses made selective use of information from Member States and, subsequently, results of studies were disseminated through publications and through the new Information Files, which were short trend pieces on specific themes. He also noted that over 200 educational and professional journals had indicated that they were interested in using the Files.

(445) In response to the question of geographical representation of authors, he noted that IBE had been broadening participation of educators from Member States in its studies programme.

(446) In a study of youth and adult attitudes toward education just beginning, participants in the design of the study came from six socialist countries, seven western industrialized countries and six developing countries, thus showing the trend. The Director gave some figures on countries from which recent authors had come and later indicated that overall figures showed that the balance was not as even as the figures given earlier would imply. He noted that they were still under-represented in terms of number of authors from developing countries and probably somewhat under-represented in the socialist countries. He added that IBE was studying that problem and would report more fully on the range of authors, which was improving but must improve even more. He also noted that the two most recent studies in the Educational Sciences series had sections prepared by authors from the various geographical regions.

(447) He noted the many suggestions for improving the IBE programme and said that IBE was currently implementing recommendations issuing from an IBE

Council evaluation of its programme two years ago and the results of a survey of Member States carried out in 1984-1985 concerning needs IBE was better equipped to meet. He assured delegates that his sole goal was to strengthen IBE's action in performing statutory functions in a cost-efficient fashion.

(448) He suggested that criticisms concerning possible duplication of activity between IBE and Headquarters units would be taken seriously and that the already close co-operation would be strengthened. Also, although he noted the high productivity of IBE, which had limited staff resources, he took note of the remarks of three delegations which had made reference to possible management problems at the IBE, which had been mentioned at the Executive Board.

(449) He responded to the question of delay of IBE publications in 1985 by noting that both periodicals, the IBE Bulletin and the IBE Newsletter, had been presented in a new format that year to make them more substantial. The changeover caused a delay in the issue of the newsletter, but the first new issue has been published and future issues would be on schedule. The IBE Bulletin and other publications were being issued more or less on schedule. He indicated that joint publishing was being encouraged, especially in languages other than the working languages of the Organization. He also noted that IBE had published a recent Bulletin on peace and international understanding, and that it was considering a special exhibit on that theme.

(450) He concluded by calling for Member States to take the initiative in continuing to provide IBE with suggestions for improving the programme and indicated that he would call the attention of the IBE Council, which was to meet 17-21 February 1986, to the various comments and concerns of the delegates.

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(451) In replying to the debate, the representative of the Director-General observed that virtually all the delegates had declared themselves in favour, by and large, of the draft programme and budget submitted under discussion unit 6, which was aimed at strengthening, through intellectual co-operation, an entire range of activities that would have considerable practical impact.

(452) Since several delegates had referred to the decentralization of activities, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that decentralization would be stepped up in comparison with the 1984-1985 period, increasing by 53 per cent in the case of Programme IV.2, for instance, and by 46 per cent in that of Programme IV.3.

(453) The representative of the Director-General thanked all delegates

Programme Commissions

who, during the discussion, had extended offers of co-operation with the Organization by suggesting that they would welcome certain activities contained in the draft programme or participate in them.

(454) The importance of interaction between theoretical work, research and practice, particularly in regard to innovations, had been highlighted in the course of the debate and a number of delegates had welcomed the fact that Programme IV.2 had been designed with that end in view.

(455) The debate had brought out the interest which many delegations took in the introduction of new technologies, especially informatics, into education and in the Unesco activities aimed at encouraging exchanges of information and experience in this field. One speaker, supported by others, suggested that an international congress should be organized on that topic in the following biennium. The representative of the Director-General pointed out that the resources earmarked for the activities aimed at promoting the use of informatics for educational purposes had gone up by nearly 50 per cent in Subprogrammes IV.2.3 and V.5.1 in comparison with the Programme and Budget for 1984-1985. Moreover, other activities related to that component of the programme were to be found, in particular, in Programme V.2 and Subprogramme V.3.3. Where programmes of educational innovations, in particular APEID, were concerned, a number of mobile teams had been sent, financed by funds-in-trust, to several Member States in Asia to train national professional staff and specialists in the techniques of using computers in education.

(456) Many comments had been made on school textbooks, which played a vital role in imbuing young people with a spirit of international understanding, mutual respect and peace. A general improvement in the quality of textbooks seemed to be discernable in that respect.

(457) Some delegates had regretted that the publication of the journal Prospects had been given first priority only in the six official languages of the Organization. The selection had been necessitated by budgetary constraints and could be widened if additional funds became available. States which so wished could draw on funds under the Participation Programme - indeed some had already done so - to support the publication of the journal in national languages.

(458) As one delegate had drawn the Commission's attention to the work done by the Unesco Institute of Education, Hamburg, in association with Programme IV.2, the representative of the Director-General noted that the General Conference, at its twenty-second session, had endorsed in resolution 4.4 the Director-General's proposals to strengthen the links of co-operation

between the Organization and the Institute, while maintaining the latter's status. This had been done in 1984-1985 and it was planned in document 23 C/5 that that action should be continued and developed: the Hamburg Institute would be associated even more closely with the execution of the programme in various ways that would enable it to play its proper role in educational research and the preparation of content in the context of life-long education.

(459) Since one delegate had considered inadequate the priority accorded in document 23 C/5 to population education and education relating to the prevention of drug abuse, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that the budget provisions for such activities in document 23 C/5 - taking into account the recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 121st session to upgrade paragraph 04217(c) from second to first priority - amounted to \$94,000, excluding staff costs. Furthermore, the amount of the extra-budgetary resources to be allocated for the execution of those activities in 1986-1987 amounted to \$9,500,000 from the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and \$1,900,000 from the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC);

(460) As some delegates had queried the proportion of staff costs in the total budget for the parts of the programme under consideration, the representative of the Director-General drew attention to the fact that the staff paid under the Regular Programme were also responsible for the execution of projects financed from extra-budgetary sources such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). In comparison with the total budget (Regular Programme and UNDP), the staff costs for Programme IV.3, for example, represented only 30.2 per cent of the resources available.

(461) The representative of the Director-General thanked the representative of the World Federation of Teachers Unions for his organization's offer of collaboration on the activities in Programme IV.3 relating to the status of teachers. He said that Unesco would take the necessary measures to intensify joint work with international non-governmental teachers' organizations, particularly in order to prepare coordinated action regarding the application of the recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers.

Draft resolutions and other decisions

(462) The Commission then examined (i) the draft resolutions referring to Programmes IV.2, IV.3 and IV.4 or to paragraphs 10(b), 10(c) and 10(d) of proposed resolution 4.1, (ii) the work plans corresponding to Programmes IV.2,

IV.3, and IV.4, and (iii) the budget summaries for Programmes IV.2, IV.3, and IV.4.

(463) Several delegates took the floor during the discussion on draft resolution 23 C/DR.122 Rev. (Algeria, Argentina, Congo, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Italy, Niger, Norway, Portugal, Romania and Switzerland). One of them drew the attention of the Commission to draft resolution 23 C/COM.II DR.2 amended, concerning the proclamation by the General Assembly of the United Nations of an international literacy year, whose adoption by the General Conference it had already recommended, and, recalling that the amendments to that resolution referred to a global strategy for the eradication of illiteracy as an essential component of the third Medium-Term Plan, he wondered whether DR.122 Rev. would not duplicate resolution 23 C/COM.II DR.2. The other speakers pointed out that DR.122 Rev. proposed the preparation of a specific plan of action within the framework of the third Medium-Term Plan of Unesco, on the understanding that Member States would have a decisive role to play in the action aimed at the elimination of illiteracy between now and the year 2000, and stressed the complementarity of the two DRs. One delegate proposed amending the last preambular paragraph of DR.122 to read as follows: 'Emphasizing the need to concentrate the programme of Unesco on the priorities identified in the Organization's Medium-Term Plans'. The Commission then decided to adopt the proposed amendment and to recommend that the General Conference should adopt that resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 4.6).

(464) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', one of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.195 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) withdrew his proposal.

(465) One of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.172 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) withdrew that proposal on the understanding that account would be taken of it in the work plan of the definitive text of the programme and budget.

(466) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.99 (Yugoslavia) withdrew his proposal on the understanding that it could be taken into consideration when the final version of the work plan was being prepared.

(467) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.201 (Bulgaria) withdrew his proposal in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', on the understanding that account would be taken of it in the implementation of the programme.

(468) In the light of the 'Note by

the Director-General', the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.161 (Venezuela) withdrew his proposal, asking for it to be mentioned in the report that the Director-General would be willing to consider a request along the same lines under the participation programme.

(469) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR/91 (Jordan), the Commission recommended that the General Conference should not adopt part (a) of the draft and noted that part (d) of the proposal could be considered during the implementation of the programme.

(470) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.98 (Yugoslavia), the Commission decided to amend the proposed resolution for Major Programme IV as indicated in the draft resolution together with the amendment suggested in the 'Note by the Director-General'. The delegate of Japan expressed his reservations with respect to the phrase 'to that end'. The delegate of Denmark asked for his view on the matter to be reflected in the report.

(471) The Senegalese delegate submitted draft resolution 23 C/DR.170 (Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Madagascar, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo and Zambia), on behalf of its co-sponsors. Referring to draft resolution 23 C/DR.162 (Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Venezuela), the Venezuelan delegate noted its similarity to DR.170 and submitted orally a new draft resolution incorporating the different elements of DR.162 and DR.170, which was supported by the Member States co-sponsoring the two draft resolutions. The Commission unanimously decided to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the new draft resolution (23 C/Resolution 4.8).

(472) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.70 (India) withdrew his proposal considering that its object was similar to that of draft resolution 23 C/DR.223 submitted by a group of Member States which included his own country.

(473) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.223 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand), the Commission decided (a) to amend it by deleting the fourth preambular paragraph and rewording subparagraph (ii) of the operative paragraph as suggested in the 'Note by the Director-General' and (b) to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 4.9).

(474) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.171 (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), the Commission decided to amend paragraph 10(b)(ii) of proposed resolution 4.1 as indicated in DR.171, noting that paragraph 10(b)(ii) had already been amended as proposed in draft resolution 98, which had been amended in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', and as proposed in draft resolution 23 C/DR.116.

Programme Commissions

(475) In the light of the 'Note by the Director-General', the author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.76 (Bulgaria) withdrew his proposal on the understanding that the work plan would be amended as proposed in the 'Note by the Director-General'.

(476) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.40 (Bulgaria, France, USSR and Ukrainian SSR), the Commission decided (i) to amend it by changing the words 'world conference' in the operative paragraph to 'international congress' and (ii) to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt the draft resolution thus amended (23 C/Resolution 4.10).

(477) One of the co-sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.200 (Finland, France) withdrew the proposal on the understanding that account would be taken of it, together with the amendment proposed by the Director-General, in the final text of the programme and budget.

(478) The Commission noted that draft resolution 23 C/DR.29 (Argentina, Mexico) was not receivable as it had not reached the Secretariat by 23 July 1985. The representative of the Director-General said that the object of the draft resolution might be taken into account in connection with the activities under the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(479) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.61 (Czechoslovakia) withdrew his proposal in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General'.

(480) The author of draft resolution 23 C/DR.77 (Bulgaria) withdrew his proposal in the light of the 'Note by the Director-General'.

(481) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.130 (France), the Commission decided (a) to recommend that the General Conference should retain in Part II.A the following paragraphs: 04207(g), 04217(c) and 04234(d), and (b) to introduce into Part II.A and into the overall budget for Major Programme IV the amendments which were to be the object of consensus in Commission II as a result of the recommendations of the working group.

(482) With regard to draft resolutions 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom) and 23 C/DR.190 (USSR), the Commission recalled that they had been entrusted for examination to the above-mentioned working group.

(483) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.151 (Congo), the Commission decided to amend resolution 4.1 as suggested in the 'Note by the Director-General'.

(484) With respect to the choice between the transfer of activities of Subprogrammes V.1.1 and V.1.2 to Subprogrammes IV.2.2 and IV.2.3 (option 1), and the retention of Subprogrammes V.1.1 and V.1.2 as such (option 2), the Commission decided to recommend that the

General Conference should choose option 1.

(485) The Commission then unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the work plans corresponding to Programmes IV.2, IV.3 and IV.4 and the participation programme contained respectively in paragraphs 04201, 04301, 04401 and 04501 of document 23 C/5 with, in both cases, the amendments arising from the proposals mentioned above, on the understanding that other amendments concerning the work plans and budgetary provisions might be made as a result of the recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the programme commissions and the administrative commission.

(486) The Commission recommended that the General Conference should adopt the proposed resolution 4.1 as amended, on the understanding that further amendments might be made as a result of the recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission (23 C/Resolution 4.1).

(487) Having taken note separately of the budget for Programmes IV.1, IV.2, IV.3 and IV.4, and for the participation programme, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme II, under the regular programme (paragraph 04001 of 23 C/5), budget provisions of US \$29,593,000 after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of US \$9,096,400 for second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the reserve for draft resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be made as a result of recommendations by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(488) The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference (a) take note of the recapitulations of the budget summary and work plan for the International Bureau of Education in paragraphs 04601 and 04603 to 04613 of document 23 C/5 respectively, together with the modifications previously accepted during the discussion of Programmes IV.1, IV.2, and IV.4; and (b) adopt proposed resolution 4.2 concerning the International Bureau of Education (paragraph 04602 of 23 C/5) (23 C/Resolution 4.2) with a budgetary provision of US \$4,701,200 under the Regular Programme for the International Bureau of Education, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of US \$1,118,200 for second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the

corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments which might be made as a result of recommendations by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(489) The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference (a) take note of the recapitulations of the budget summary and work plan for the International Institute for Educational Planning in paragraphs 04701 and 04703 to 04708 of document 23 C/5 respectively; and (b) adopt proposed resolution 4.3 concerning the International Institute for Educational Planning (paragraph 04702 of 23 C/5) (23 C/Resolution 4.4), the budget of the International Institute

for Educational Planning under the Regular Programme amounting to \$3,753,600 after the placing in reserve of \$1,060,000 representing second-priority activities (one asterisk), it being understood that further modifications might be made to the IIEP budget as a result of recommendations by the Commission itself or by the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(490) With regard to the Unesco Institute for Education, Hamburg, the Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 4.4 (paragraph 04801 of 23 C/5) (23 C/Resolution 4.5) and take note of the recapitulation of the work plan for the Institute in paragraphs 04802 to 04810 of document 23 C/5.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 7 AND ITEM 6.2

Introduction of Major Programme V, Programmes V.1, V.3 and V.4, and item 6.2

(491) The representative of the Director-General introduced Major Programme V dealing with the relations between education and certain vital aspects of the life of societies, such as culture, communication, science and technology and the world of work. Activities relating to higher education and physical education and sport also came under this major programme because of the growing role that would inevitably be played by higher education in economic and social development, and because of the importance of physical education and sport as a factor in the all-round development of individuals and as a means of promoting values essential to the progress of societies. The objective of the major programme was therefore to further types of education and training conducive to the fulfilment of individual potential and the development and progress of societies. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Executive Board, priority had been given to science and technology education and technical and vocational education.

(492) The Executive Board, in 121 EX/Decision 4.1 (paragraph 86), had recommended that the General Conference should choose between the two options submitted in respect of Subprogramme V.4.1: 'Development of physical education and sport under the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport and development of sport for all', the first of which provided for the convening in 1987 of the Second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, while the second proposed activities aimed at extending the practice of physical education

and sport to different categories of the population.

(493) Under Major Programme V, 40 extra-budgetary projects were currently being executed. Twelve of those projects would continue to be executed in 1986-1987, together with other projects currently being negotiated or prepared. Extra-budgetary funds amounting to \$13,528,000 were proposed for Major Programme V in the 1986-1987 biennium.

(494) After referring to the Commission's decision to recommend that the General Conference should transfer the activities under Programme V.1: 'Education, culture and communication' to Subprogrammes IV.2.2: 'Improvement of the content of education' and IV.2.3: 'Improvement of educational methods', the representative of the Director-General introduced Programme V.3: 'Education and the world of work'. The activities under this programme sought to promote information exchanges, research and evaluation concerning objectives and specific achievements relating to the integration of productive work into education, the establishment of closer links between education and work, and the expansion and improvement of technical and vocational education.

(495) The Commission would have to make a choice between two options in respect of Subprogrammes V.3.1 and V.3.2; the first would merge all activities designed to forge closer links between education and work in a single Subprogramme V.3.1 entitled 'Interaction between education and productive work and relations between education and employment'. The activities under this subprogramme would be closely coordinated with those relating to educational policies and planning under Major Programmes II and IV. If the first option of Subprogramme V.3.1 were adopted, the subprogramme concerning the

expansion and improvement of technical and vocational education (Subprogramme V.3.3 in document 22 C/5) would become Subprogramme V.3.2 in document 23 C/5.

(496) The Member States and the Executive Board had assigned high priority to Subprogramme V.3.2, and it was therefore proposed that the funds allocated to it in draft document 23 C/5 should be substantially increased. In addition, with a view to concentrating activities relating to technical and vocational education in rural areas, the activities relating to intermediate agricultural education could be transferred from Subprogramme II.5.3 to Subprogramme V.3.2.

(497) The representative of the Director-General pointed out that Subprogramme V.3.2 was structured around four major themes: co-operation with Member States for the application of the Revised Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education; the promotion of exchanges of information and experience relating to technical and vocational education; the qualitative improvement of technical and vocational education (in particular, the relevance of content, methods and materials and the training of personnel for technical and vocational education); and the development of national infrastructures for the qualitative and quantitative expansion of technical and vocational education in the light of requirements and structural changes in employment.

(498) In pursuance of a recommendation made by the Executive Board at its 120th session and with a view to promoting exchanges of information and experience, it was proposed to organize, under that same subprogramme, an international congress (category IV) on technical and vocational education during the 1986-1987 biennium. Generally speaking, emphasis would continue to be placed on training activities and greater attention would be paid to regional co-operation.

(499) The representative of the Director-General introduced item 6.2 of the agenda: Desirability of adopting a convention on technical and vocational education (see paragraphs 506 to 508 of this report) to the Commission.

(500) The purpose of Programme V.4: 'Promotion of physical education and sport' was to ensure that in the context of lifelong education, physical education and sport occupied the place they deserved in formal and non-formal education as a fundamental right for all and an essential factor in the harmonious development of the personality and the preservation of health in the conditions of life characteristic of contemporary societies. That programme, as it appeared in draft document 23 C/5, had been drawn up in accordance with the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (ICPES) and the terms of 120 EX/Decision 4.1 of the Executive

Board. For purposes of concentration, it was proposed to merge Subprogrammes V.4.1 and V.4.3 in a single subprogramme entitled 'Development of physical education and sport under the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport and development of sport for all'.

(501) An equal number of opinions for and against the holding of an International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, foreseen in option 1 of this subprogramme, had been noted during the Executive Board's debate on this subject at its 121st session. Should the General Conference decide in favour of such a conference, an item on combating violence in sport would be included on its agenda, as recommended by the Executive Board.

(502) The representative of the Director-General recalled that the Executive Board, at its 122nd session, had also decided that a multidisciplinary study of the origins and forms of violence in sports activities, and in particular its social and educational aspects, together with appropriate remedial action, should be undertaken. If the General Conference were to agree to this recommendation, it would be reflected in the work plan in document 23 C/5 Approved.

(503) With regard to the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, two statutory documents (document 23 C/70: Report by the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (1984-1985) and document 23 C/71: Report of the Director-General on the activities of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport) had been submitted to the General Conference for information.

(504) Furthermore, in accordance with a recommendation by the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, the Executive Board, at its 122nd session, had created an official Unesco award, in the form of a diploma, for distinguished services to physical education and sport.

(505) The representative of the Director-General indicated that the purpose of Subprogramme V.4.2: 'Encouragement for Youth Movements' was to associate young people themselves in the development of sports facilities where such facilities were virtually non-existent and to relate sporting activities for young people to the cultural values of each society, and particularly to traditional games and sports. It made provision for technical and financial support to National Commissions and non-governmental organizations for the implementation of projects which encourage the participation of young people, on a voluntary basis, in the construction of simple low-cost sports facilities, particularly in the most disadvantaged environments. This support would also be provided for

projects capable of reviving young people's interest in sporting and cultural activities related to the traditions of their peoples and for the regional and interregional sporting and cultural events to be organized as part of the International Year of Peace (1986). The proposed training of youth organizers and leaders was aimed at updating the methods used in this field.

Introduction of document 23 C/28

(506) The Assistant Director-General for Education introduced the passage of document 23 C/5 relating to agenda item 6.2. He recalled resolution 5.2, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, in which the Director-General was invited to conduct an in-depth study to provide guidelines and principles which might be included in a possible convention on technical and vocational education (Annex I of document 23 C/28).

(507) At its 121st session, the Executive Board, after examining the in-depth study, decided to transmit a summary of the debate in its Programme and External Relations Commission on this topic (Annex II of document 23 C/28) to the General Conference. The decision of the Executive Board appears in paragraph 4 of document 23 C/28.

(508) As indicated in paragraph 10 of document 23 C/28, the General Conference is invited:

(a) to decide whether a convention on technical and vocational education is desirable;

(b) to decide whether to convene a special committee of governmental experts to prepare a final draft of the convention to be submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-fifth session as proposed in paragraph 05326 of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

Introduction of document 23 C/70

(509) The Chairman of the Commission invited the Vice-Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport, Dr Vasquez Moya (Cuba), to present the Committee's report. Dr Vasquez Moya recalled that the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport had met in Paris from 9 to 16 October 1984, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 05410 of document 22 C/5. Document 23 C/70 contained the recommendations adopted at that fourth session, which had been focused on the main items included in paragraph 05410 of the Approved Programme and Budget for 1984-1985.

(510) The Committee had dwelt in particular on the organization, as part of International Youth Year (1985), of the first World Week of Physical Fitness and Sport for All, on the lines of emphasis to be given to Programme V.4

for 1986-1987, on the future of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport, Unesco's relations with the international sports organizations, and the creation of an official Unesco distinction to reward eminent services to physical education and sport.

(511) The Committee, recalling the terms of paragraph 05413 of document 22 C/5 Approved, had recommended looking into the possibility of convening a second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport immediately before or after the fifth session of the Committee, in order to limit the costs.

(512) The Committee had also suggested encouraging the international sports organizations which were in favour of physical education and sport for all to offer, like Member States, financial and other contributions in kind to the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport.

(513) At the same time, the Committee had recommended that it be proposed that the General Conference, at its twenty-third session, should amend the Statutes of the Committee to enable its Bureau to remain in office until the election of a new Bureau. Should the General Conference approve the amendments proposed in document 23 C/26, the Bureau of the Committee could meet in December 1985.

(514) Mr Vasquez Moya said that the final report drawn up at the end of the fourth session (ED/MD/77) had been sent to all Member States as well as to various international intergovernmental, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Major Programme V: Education, training and society

(515) Of the 42 speakers who took the floor in the course of the debate on unit 7, nearly all expressed their support for the overall conception of Major Programme V: 'Education, training and society'.

(516) Many delegates praised the quality of the proposals submitted under that major programme and noted that its presentation in document 23 C/5 was an improvement on previous biennia.

(517) Several speakers emphasized the internal consistency of Major Programme V, due in particular to the range of activities designed to strengthen the essential links between education and society. Other delegates emphasized - with approval - the effort to promote programme concentration which had taken the form of the various options submitted to Member States within that major programme and more particularly of the possibility of merging certain sub-programmes. One delegate nevertheless considered that the major programme

Programme Commissions

contained activities with no obvious relation to one another and that it consequently lacked unity.

(518) Several delegates took the floor to express their agreement with the priority accorded to Programmes V.2 and V.3. Others added that the activities involving higher education, training and research were also regarded by their countries as extremely important.

(519) Several delegates expressed their countries' interest in participating in the activities proposed under Major Programme V. Some emphasized the importance of activities under the subprogramme aimed at promoting exchanges of experience.

Programme V.1: Education, culture and communication

(520) Although the Commission decided, in the course of its discussion of unit 6, to transfer the content of Programme V.1 to Subprogrammes IV.2.2 and IV.2.3, several delegates referred to the content of Programme V.1 in the course of discussion on unit 7. Four delegates stated that they had not been in favour of the transfer. One speaker considered that the transfer of Programme V.1 might seriously impair its effectiveness, since the activities originally intended to promote the content of education would acquire a methodological slant. However, being aware of the effort at programme concentration undertaken, and for the sake of a consensus, he joined the other speakers in agreeing to the transfer.

(521) One delegate, criticizing the programme for drawing a distinction between languages and communication as if they were separate activities, recalled the need to teach languages as vehicles of communication inside and outside a country. She requested that communication should not be reduced to its technological forms, while expressing the hope that adequate provision would be made for teaching young people to be critically aware of the messages conveyed by the mass communication media.

(522) One speaker emphasized the importance of activities to promote the teaching of languages, as provided for under the Major Project in the Field of Education in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Programme V.3: Education and the world of work

(523) Most of the 42 speakers who participated in the discussion of unit 7 mentioned the importance of technical and vocational education for social and economic development, for facing the demands of our fast-developing scientific and technological society and for achieving a democratized system of education, as well as eventually achieving an international economic order.

(524) Many speakers felt gratified

that there had been a marked increase in the budget allocation to this programme and that the work plan had included a number of action-oriented activities.

(525) Many speakers also mentioned the experience of their countries in promoting interaction between education and productive work and relations between education and employment. Many of them stressed the necessity for Unesco to co-operate in improving existing programmes in this field.

(526) Subprogramme V.3.1: 'Interaction between education and productive work and relations between education and employment' was favourably received by many delegates and supported either in its own right or within the context of the general support for Programme V.3. The failure of education to lead to employment was recognized by many speakers as a serious problem, a source of deep frustration to unemployed school-leavers and a waste of human and financial resources for society. One delegate even went as far as to label some schools, as at present organized, 'unemployment factories'. Several speakers therefore stressed the priority nature of the activities in Subprogramme V.3.1 within Programme V.3: 'Education and the world of work'.

(527) The work plan proposed in document 23 C/5 offered a choice between two options. Option 1 was the amalgamation of the two subprogrammes of the second Medium-Term Plan, V.3.1 and V.3.2, into one subprogramme, and option 2, their maintenance in the original form. There was general approval of option 1 which, as one delegate put it, implied concentration which he hoped would give support to a truly interactive approach when dealing with education and work. Two delegates, however, expressed a preference for the maintenance of the two subprogrammes as proposed in the second Medium-Term Plan.

(528) It was considered by many speakers that the interaction between education and productive work could be best achieved within a comprehensive and integrated approach. Many delegates illustrated the point by reference to experiences in their countries. Some of the experiences presented were experimental in nature, intended to develop and test new approaches in linking education and productive work. Others were activities on a large scale, some of which had been in operation for a number of years. One delegate even stressed the need to take into account the age, sex and interests of the pupils as well as concern for their aesthetic and moral development in planning the integration of education and productive work. Another indicated that several studies had been made on the integration of education and productive work but that further research and analysis needed to be promoted with a view to improving existing programmes. Still another noted that his country was at

present interested in improving the forms and modalities of application of the principles of the integration of education and productive work since that was central to all its educational programmes.

(529) On the other hand, one delegate observed that his country was not familiar with the reality implied in the integration of education and productive work in the educational process in the terms in which it was stated in paragraph 05306.

(530) One delegate underlined the importance of recommendation 73 of the 38th session of the International Conference on Education (ICE) relating to the reform of the system of education and productive work. He added that his country was interested in acquiring better knowledge of the different strategies being applied to achieve that end in other Member States as well as learning of the results of any studies on the subject.

(531) Many speakers expressed their support for paragraph 05306, several of them citing subparagraphs (a) and (c) as being of particular importance. Some of them stated the interest of their governments in participating in the evaluation seminar and/or one of the regional workshops proposed in that paragraph. One delegate also indicated his government's interest in hosting one of the regional workshops,

(532) Several delegates specifically commented on the interrelations between education and employment. One delegate noted that his country was doing its best to relate school experiences more clearly to working life and to give students social and vocational skills to facilitate their integration into working life.

(533) There were many references to the proposed studies to be undertaken by the IIEP (paragraph 05355). Several delegates expressed the interest of their countries in participating in those studies. One delegate suggested that, in view of the interdisciplinary nature of the studies proposed, they should be carried out with other international organizations, such as ILO. He suggested that the studies should be of a comprehensive and comparative nature and address problems of common concern to a group of Member States. He further suggested that these studies might focus on the following: (i) analysis of employment structures; (ii) study and analysis of the main technological innovations likely to take place in the future in the countries involved in the study; (iii) expected modifications in the employment structure due to the technologies and (iv) definition of the teaching mechanisms needing to be designed to meet identified needs. Another delegate urged that those studies should be given a pronounced practical slant. Still another, while supporting the studies, considered that

they might be better placed in Programme V.5: 'Higher education'.

(534) Two delegates recommended that paragraph 05307(d) relating to a workshop on methods and techniques for aligning educational policies and plans with those concerning employment should be upgraded from second to first priority. Two other delegates expressed their support for the subvention accorded in paragraph 05307(e), one of them insisting that the Association concerned was particularly well placed to contribute to the objectives of the subprogramme.

Subprogramme V.3.2: Expansion and improvement of technical and vocational education

(535) Forty-two speakers took part in the discussion on this subprogramme. Almost all of them supported it and emphasized the importance of technical and vocational education in economic and social development and its role in adapting the education system to scientific and technological progress and in promoting democratization of education.

(536) Many delegates expressed their satisfaction with the proposed activities under this subprogramme. Two speakers indicated that the proposals were imaginative and covered many new and effective measures for the development and improvement of technical and vocational education. A number of delegates expressed the hope that in view of the growing importance of technical and vocational education, the subprogramme would be further expanded in the next Medium-Term Plan.

(537) A considerable number of delegates emphasized the importance of exchange of information and experience in technical and vocational education for all Member States and the role of Unesco in this field. Several speakers welcomed the proposal for the organization of an international congress on technical and vocational education and felt that it would provide a forum for worldwide exchange of information on trends and developments in technical and vocational education.

(538) One speaker hoped that the congress would make concrete suggestions for future action in that field. Three speakers referred to the importance of the information bulletin and technical documents and a multilingual dictionary in technical and vocational education proposed in paragraph 05327.

(539) One speaker suggested that the dictionary should be prepared with illustrations. The importance of exchange of information on strategies and planning for technical and vocational education as well as on experiences in teacher training were stressed by several speakers. One speaker mentioned the need for exchange of scientific information on learning theories in technical education, and on incentives

Programme Commissions

for young people in this field. Many delegates offered to share their national experience with other countries.

(540) A number of speakers described the reforms recently carried out in their respective countries to adapt the education system as a whole and technical and vocational education, in particular, to their social and economic needs. Several delegates emphasized the importance of agricultural education and adapting technical and vocational education to the needs of rural areas. In this connection, they welcomed the proposed activities in paragraph 05330.

(541) The importance of co-ordination between formal and non-formal technical and vocational education and increased co-operation between school and industry and the agricultural sector was mentioned by several speakers.

(542) One delegate suggested that increased attention should be given to technical and vocational education for adults. A number of speakers referred to the importance of facilitating the access of girls and women to technical and vocational education. These speakers suggested that co-ordination between Unesco, ILO, FAO and other United Nations agencies concerned with vocational education and training be strengthened in both industrial and agricultural sectors.

(543) A number of delegates referred to their national experience in curriculum reform in technical and vocational education and one delegate mentioned an innovative modular method which had recently been introduced in his country.

(544) Nearly all speakers stressed the crucial importance of training teachers and other key personnel for technical and vocational education. Lack of adequately trained teachers was considered a major obstacle for the expansion of technical and vocational education, especially in the developing countries. The proposed activities under paragraph 05329 for the training of technical and vocational education personnel met with the approval of many speakers. Several Member States indicated that they would like to participate in those activities. Three speakers expressed the hope that the proposed activities under paragraph 05329(c) would be upgraded to first priority.

(545) Many delegates emphasized the importance of curriculum development in technical and vocational education and the adaptation of curricula to the requirements of individuals and society and to technological change. Several speakers expressed their satisfaction with regard to the activities proposed for promotion of innovations in the content, methods and materials of technical and vocational education (paragraph 05328). They stated their interest in participating in the execution of some of those activities. One delegate offered to co-operate with

Unesco in organizing training courses on the subject in his country. Two speakers suggested that, if possible, the proposed activity (d) under paragraph 05328 be upgraded to first priority.

(546) One delegate stated that the design of curricula for technical and vocational education should reflect the reality of working life. Several speakers underlined the need for greater linkage between general education and technical and vocational education, and for a balance between theoretical and practical lessons in technical and vocational education. The importance of integrating technical and vocational education and productive work was stressed by several speakers.

(547) The need for the preparation of training materials at the national level was expressed by several speakers. Reference was also made to the importance of practical training of teachers. This was considered especially important in developing countries where opportunities for teachers to acquire industrial experience were somewhat limited. Several speakers suggested the need for integrating the training of teachers with productive work. One delegate referred to the importance of training teachers and other personnel for agricultural education and technical and vocational education adapted to rural areas.

(548) Many speakers stressed the importance of expanding in-service training for teachers to enable them to cope with technological changes and modern developments in the methodology of education. In that connection, the need to provide adequate incentives to teachers for lifelong education and training was mentioned.

(549) A number of delegates referred to the high cost of establishing infrastructures, equipment and materials for technical and vocational education. It was suggested that increased efforts were needed, especially at the national level, through local production of materials and equipment, to reduce the cost of technical and vocational education. Unesco was asked to assist Member States in that field. One speaker suggested that a guide on evaluation of premises and equipment, which had been foreseen as a second priority activity in paragraph 05331(d), should be upgraded to first priority. Another speaker proposed that Unesco should assist in setting up a regional centre in Africa for the development of materials and equipment for technical and vocational education and encourage the training of national specialists in this field.

Item 6.2: Desirability of adopting a convention on technical and vocational education

(550) Many delegates took part in the discussion on agenda item 6.2.

(551) Several speakers expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the in-depth study carried out by the Secretariat. One delegate indicated that the substantive elements for a possible convention indicated in paragraph 4.7 of the in-depth study could guide further actions for the development of technical and vocational education, regardless of the adoption of a convention.

(552) Twenty-six delegates expressed their views on the desirability of a convention on technical and vocational education. Twenty-one delegates were clearly in favour of a convention, while five delegates expressed reservations about the desirability of an international convention in this field.

(553) A number of speakers felt that a convention would stimulate the development of technical and vocational education in Member States through promotion of national legislation and increased international co-operation in this field. Several speakers indicated that a convention on technical and vocational education could contribute to international standards in this field. It was suggested that a convention would facilitate the transfer and effective use of new technologies, particularly in developing countries. Reference was also made to the possible contribution of a convention on technical and vocational education to promotion of the objectives of the international economic order.

(554) One speaker stressed that while the 1974 Revised Recommendation concerning technical and vocational education had frequently been used as a guide by national authorities, it had not always been reflected in national legislation. An international convention could contribute to increasing awareness among national authorities and decision-makers for the development of technical and vocational education, in accordance with the specific economic and social needs of individual countries.

(555) A number of delegates felt that the guidelines and principles suggested in the in-depth study could be used as a basis for the elaboration of a draft convention. Several delegates stated that their countries would wish to be associated with the preparation of the draft convention. Two speakers suggested that in view of the urgent need for such a convention, its preparation should, if possible, be accelerated so that the draft convention could be submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session for adoption.

(556) Several speakers who expressed reservations about the desirability of a convention felt that the existing revised recommendation was adequate as an international standard-setting instrument in the field of technical and vocational education and that increased efforts should be made for its application. It was stated that the

Organization's resources might better be used for practical and concrete activities in technical and vocational education. Two speakers, referring to paragraph 4.3 of the in-depth study, which suggested that a possible convention on technical and vocational education should be limited to a few broadly accepted principles, felt that the usefulness of such a convention might be limited. One of those speakers also said that the relationship between the proposed Unesco convention and the existing ILO convention in a related field had not been clarified in the in-depth study. Another speaker expressed concern about proliferation of standard-setting instruments and referred to a statement which had been made in that regard by the Chairman of the Member States of the 'Group of 77' in Unesco. One delegate considered that there was no need for a convention as most Member States were aware of the importance of technical and vocational education, and it was for each Member State to take the necessary measures to develop that type of education in the light of its social and economic conditions and education system.

Programme V.4: Promotion of physical education and sport

(557) Thirty-three delegates expressed their views on Programme V.4, all lending it their support. Several of them expressed satisfaction with the prominence accorded to it in a major programme devoted to the theme 'Education, training and society'. One speaker, however, expressed the hope that the programme would be merged with similar activities in Major Programme II - Education for all - particularly as regards activities relating to sport for all. Another speaker considered that Programme V.4 could with advantage be integrated into Major Programme IV - The formulation and application of education policies - of which it logically formed a part.

(558) With regard to Subprogramme V.4.1: 'Development of physical education and sport under the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport and development of sport for all', those speakers who referred to the programme's structure declared their preference for the option that merged activities relating to the development of physical education and sport with those concerning the development of sport for all.

(559) Several speakers mentioned the importance accorded by their countries to the development of physical education and sport. One participant emphasized the importance of the part that sport played in primary schools in inculcating a liking for physical effort, love of fair play, self-transcendence and public-spiritedness. Others mentioned the favourable influence

Programme Commissions

that the development of sport for all had had in their countries e.g. on the level of the nation's health, social harmony and greater efficiency at work. One speaker offered to make his country's experience available to anyone who wished to take advantage of it.

(560) Several participants welcomed the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport and the report it had submitted to them. One delegate mentioned that his country had always supported the Committee's activities and announced that he would like to sit on the Committee again.

(561) Several speakers mentioned their countries' concern to preserve traditional games as part of their cultural heritage, and requested the Organization to lend their support to that endeavour, both nationally and regionally.

(562) A substantial part of the discussion was devoted to examining the option consisting of either convening a Second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, planned for 1987, or using the corresponding funds to organize activities in Member States so as to extend physical education and sport to various sectors of the population who had difficulty in engaging in them.

(563) Twelve speakers declared themselves in favour of convening the Conference, considering it advisable for a further meeting of world officials to be held, 12 years after the first Conference, in order to evaluate the progress made in the development of physical education and sport since that date. The Conference would have to take account of the appearance or, for some, the exacerbation of major factors or problems that were the responsibility of the ministers, such as the introduction of physical education throughout the school system, sport for all, the prevention of violence in sport and the increase in alcoholism and the use of drugs. Other speakers pointed out that it was also advisable to consider the position that should be allotted to physical and sports activities in Unesco's third Medium-Term Plan, and ways of remedying the difficult financial situation of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS), whose establishment had been recommended by the Conference of Ministers. One speaker recommended that, given the financial restrictions, the Second Conference of Ministers should be held at the Organization's Headquarters in Paris, immediately after the fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee.

(564) Twelve delegates, while reiterating their countries' support for the development of physical education and sport, considered that the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical

Education and Sport, set up by the General Conference, was equipped to deal with the problems mentioned. Recalling that the aim was to concentrate the Organization's resources, they felt that the funding of activities to extend the practice of sport to the least favoured sectors of the population would be more profitable to the cause of physical education and sport than an international discussion. One delegate suggested deferring the Conference to the 1988-1989 biennium.

(565) Several speakers welcomed the initiative taken by the Executive Board at its 120th session in including the matter of violence in sport on the agenda of its 121st session and its decision, at its 121st session, to request the Director-General to carry out an in-depth study on the matter. One speaker urged that the subject be considered from a genuinely interdisciplinary angle.

(566) A number of speakers referred to the situation of the International Fund for the Development of Physical Education and Sport (FIDEPS). One speaker deplored the fact that the resources at its disposal were so slender. Three countries supported the proposal in paragraph 05416(b) concerning the preparation of an international programme for the further training of physical education and sports personnel with the help of contributions in kind to the Fund from Member States. One country noted in this connection the vital importance of training voluntary personnel. Three delegates announced or confirmed their countries' intention to make contributions in kind to the programme. One of them said that his country organized a training seminar for the project each year and would continue to do so during the next biennium. Another delegate said that his country was offering the services of an institution of higher education and of consultants to Member States on request.

(567) Eighteen speakers took the floor on Subprogramme V.4.2: 'Encouragement for youth movements' to express their firm support for its continuation. Stressing the importance of active participation by young people in the development of sport and wholeheartedly endorsing the activities aimed at training youth organizers, these speakers pointed out to what an extent an organizer training programme based on the needs of modern youth could help to revitalize and develop youth programmes. One delegate felt that such activities were particularly necessary in rural areas; another suggested that the exercise of democracy at the local level should be taken into account in their implementation. A number of speakers considered that a greater volume of funds should be allocated to these activities in future.

(568) Expressing the view that all the activities under Subprogramme V.4.2

deserved to be assigned first priority, some delegates proposed that the activities under paragraph 05423(1)(b) should be upgraded to first priority; others were in favour of assigning first priority to the activities contemplated under paragraph 05424(2)(b). Several delegations said they wished to be associated with the implementation of the activities envisaged under this subprogramme and pledged their active co-operation.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(569) Replying to the debate on discussion unit 7, the representative of the Director-General thanked the speakers for the support they had given to Major Programme V as a whole, it being based on the Organization's Medium-Term Plan for 1984-1989, and for the many offers to co-operate in implementing the proposed activities. He assured the Commission that the Secretariat would carefully study all the comments and suggestions made during the discussion.

(570) With regard to Programme V.1, the representative of the Director-General noted the Commission's decision to recommend that the General Conference adopt option 1, which consisted in merging the activities under Programme V.1 with those under Subprogrammes IV.2.2 and IV.2.3.

(571) One delegation had been against separating Subprogrammes V.1.1: 'Education, culture and languages of instruction', and V.1.2: 'Education and communication', but the representative of the Director-General said that although the two subprogrammes were separate they would on no account be dissociated, as the educational process had to be considered as a unified whole.

(572) Answering a delegate who had expressed the wish that the activities of Programme V.4: 'Promotion of physical education and sport' should be carried out in conjunction with certain components of Major Programme II, the representative of the Director-General said that future draft programmes and budgets might be able to include cross references indicating such relationships.

(573) The discussion on Programme V.3 revealed very broad support among the delegations for the activities proposed; the relations between education and the world of work were indeed crucial to the problems of modern societies. One delegate having wished to be enlightened as to the exact meaning of the expression 'the integration of productive work into the education process', the representative of the Director-General explained that its aim was to encourage in an educational but also broadly cultural context, the balanced development of the personality at the same time as a better preparation for professional life through an

experience of work that was of value both to the individual and to the community to which he belonged. He mentioned that the International Conference on Education had studied this problem at its 39th session and had prepared a recommendation for the attention of the relevant ministries.

(574) During the discussion on unit 7, as in the case of several other units, speakers testified on numerous occasions to the usefulness of the exchanges of information and experience that Unesco was endeavouring to promote, regarding for instance the reduction of educational costs in the part of the programme under consideration.

(575) The representative of the Director-General welcomed the satisfaction expressed by most delegates at the prominence given to the promotion of physical education and sport in Major Programme V.

(576) With regard to conferences, the representative of the Director-General drew the Commission's attention to the fact that a total appropriation of \$135,000 was proposed in paragraph 05409 for the consecutive organization (option 1) of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (ICPES) and the Second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport, in 1987. If the Commission adopted option 2, which provided only for the organization in 1986 of the Fifth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee, a sum of \$55,000 would be made available and could be allocated to activities concerning the development of sport for all.

(577) In conclusion, the representative of the Director-General noted the interest displayed by delegates in Subprogramme V.4.2: 'Encouragement for youth movements', and particularly in activities regarding the training of youth movement organizers.

Draft resolutions and other
decisions

(578) The Commission bearing in mind the consequences of the choice of option 1, which was to transfer the activities of Programme V.1 to Subprogrammes IV.2.2 and IV.2.3, then examined (i) the draft resolutions referring to Programmes V.3 and V.4 and to item 6.2 of the agenda or to paragraphs 11(c) and (d) of proposed resolution 5.1, (ii) the work plans corresponding to Programmes V.3 and V.4, and (iii) the budget summaries relating to Programmes V.3 and V.4.

(579) The author of 23 C/DR.108 (Australia) withdrew his proposal in the light of the prior decision of the Commission regarding 23 C/DR.130.

(580) In the light of the Note by the Director-General, the author of 23 C/DR.156 (German Democratic Republic)

withdrew his proposal, asking that mention be made in the report of the great importance his country attached to the implementation of recommendation no. 73, adopted by the International Conference on Education at its 38th session, concerning the interaction between education and productive work, and to the reference therein to paragraph 05306(b) of document 23 C/5. He expressed the wish that this recommendation be referred to in the final version of the work plan corresponding to paragraph 05308(a).

(581) With regard to 23 C/DR.28 (Argentina), the Commission noted that this proposal had been received by the Secretariat after 23 July 1985 and, in the light of the Note by the Director-General, that the appropriations allocated for the activities covered by the draft resolution had already been increased in document 23 C/5.

(582) In the light of the Note by the Director-General, one of the sponsors of 23 C/DR.247 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand) withdrew this proposal, on the understanding that as much account as possible would be taken of it in the implementation of the programme.

(583) With regard to 23 C/COM.II/DR.3 (Byelorussian SSR, German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Ukrainian SSR and USSR), the Commission decided after a discussion to accept the amendments given below, which were proposed by an informal working group set up by the Commission to seek a compromise between the different points of view expressed by delegates in the course of discussion:

(i) in the fourth preambular paragraph, to cite the content of Articles 23 and 26 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights at the end of the resolution and delete the phrase after the words 'human rights';

(ii) to delete the fifth preambular paragraph;

(iii) to amend the wording of the seventh preambular paragraph, after words 'efforts to', to read: 'improve and to develop technical and vocational education and to foster the development of appropriate national legislation in this field';

(iv) to amend the wording of the ninth preambular paragraph to read as follows: 'Recognizing that international agreements and recommendations can support efforts by Member States to expand technical and vocational education, to improve the quality of training, and thus to contribute to the acceleration of economic and social development';

(v) to amend the operative paragraph to read as follows: 'Authorizes the Director-General to prepare a preliminary report and a first draft of the Convention to be submitted to Member States for their comments and to send his analysis to the members of the Executive Board for information as soon

as possible, it being understood that a special committee of governmental experts may be convened in 1989 if the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference so decides, to prepare a final draft of the Convention to be submitted to the General Conference at its twenty-fifth session, as proposed in paragraph 05326 of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, and that the provisions of such a convention shall be without prejudice to those of previously adopted international conventions'. The Commission then decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt this resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 5.2).

(584) With regard to 23 C/DR.246 (USSR), the Commission, after a wide-ranging discussion, decided:

(i) to accept the following amendment to the operative paragraph, proposed by an informal working group which it had set up in order to seek, in a spirit of consensus, a compromise between the different points of view expressed by delegates during the discussion; the amendment reads as follows: 'Invites the Director-General to conduct the necessary preparatory work for the convening during the 1988-1989 biennium of the second International Conference (category II) of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport' (23 C/Resolution 5.3);

(ii) to recommend that the General Conference adopt this resolution as amended.

The Commission took note that, by its action on 23 C/DR.246, it had recommended option 2 for Subprogramme V.4.1 and that preparatory work for the second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sports should be carried out in 1986-1987, with the following budgetary implications: part (\$20,500) of the difference of \$55,000 between the total appropriations provided for in paragraph 05409(a), first priority in option 1, and those provided for in paragraph 05416(a), also first priority in option 2, would be added to the appropriations of the latter paragraph, bringing them to US \$100,500, in order to conduct the preparatory work for the second International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sports, it being understood that the appropriations of paragraphs 05417(a) and 05417(b) would be reduced by US \$6,600 and US \$13,900 respectively.

(585) In the light of the Note by the Director-General, the author of 23 C/DR.154 (German Democratic Republic) withdrew his proposal, but requested that the report should reflect his wish that a first priority activity of Subprogramme V.4.2 should make an explicit contribution to the International Year of Peace. The Secretariat provided some

clarifications concerning the first priority activities proposed under Subprogramme V.4.2, and assured the delegate of the German Democratic Republic that account could be taken of his wish in the implementation of these activities in 1986-1987.

(586) The author of 23 C/DR.131 (France) changed from '87' to '86' the paragraph number in paragraph (a) of the operative part. The Commission then:

(a) decided to amend proposed resolution 5.1 concerning Major Programme V as suggested in subparagraphs (a) as amended and (b) of draft resolution 131, and

(b) having noted the consequences of the choice of option 1, which implies changing the numbering of paragraphs 05107(c), 05108(b) and 05108(c), decided to recommend that the General Conference (i) retain in Part II.A paragraphs 04216(b), 04216(d) and 04218(b) of document 23 C/5 and (ii) make to Part II.A and the overall budget for Major

Programme V the amendments adopted by consensus in Commission II, following the recommendations of the working group.

(587) The Commission then decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plans corresponding to Programmes V.3 and V.4, together with the accepted amendments mentioned above, on the understanding that they could also be amended following recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

(588) The Commission also recommended that the General Conference take note of the budget summaries for Programmes V.3 and V.4, contained in paragraphs 05301 and 05401 of document 23 C/5 respectively, on the understanding that amendments might be made following the recommendations of the Commission itself or of the joint meeting of the Programme Commissions and the Administrative Commission.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 8

Introduction of Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6

(589) The representative of the Director-General introduced discussion unit 8 which covered Programme V.2: 'Teaching of science and technology', Programme V.5: 'Higher education, training and research', and Programme V.6: 'Action with a view to better integration of training and research activities'. He recalled that the Executive Board, in 121 EX/Decision 4.1 had reaffirmed the priority nature of Programme V.2: 'Teaching of science and technology' - and the special interest of the activities proposed in relation to higher education.

(590) Programme V.2 was designed to support the efforts of the Member States to extend and to improve the quality of science and technology teaching. In particular, the programme attempted to link the teaching of science and technology, as an integral part of the content of general education, more closely with national development, improving it at all levels and in all types of formal and non-formal education.

(591) All the activities relating to the exchange of ideas and information and technical co-operation with the Member States were to be included in Subprogramme V.2.1, in order to concentrate the programme. More space had been devoted therein to the teaching of scientific subjects - physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics - and to integrated science teaching, the teaching of technology and nutrition and health education. The titles of Subprogrammes V.2.1 and V.2.2 would be altered in the following manner to bring them into line

with their content: Subprogramme V.2.1: 'Development of the teaching of science and technology in the school', Subprogramme V.2.2: 'Out-of-school science and technology education'.

(592) The first-priority actions in Programme V.2 included the development of an international information network on the teaching of science and technology, the follow-up and extension of pilot projects launched during the preceding biennium, the preparation of innovative teaching materials for the various science subjects and for science teaching activities in primary schools and out-of-school activities. Greater attention had been paid in the proposals to technical co-operation with the Member States. Technical support would be provided in conjunction with Programme II.4 for projects designed to provide greater access for women and girls to the study of science and technology. An effort would be made to improve out-of-school activities and extension programmes in conjunction with Subprogramme IX.1.2: 'Science and technology extension work'.

(593) The representative of the Director-General emphasized that the stress had been placed in those two subprogrammes on training activities, which would receive 47.4 per cent of the programme appropriation. They could for instance take the form of support for national groups working on the preparation of training materials for teachers in specific areas of science and technology teaching.

(594) The representative of the Director-General presented together Programmes V.5: 'Higher education, training and research', and V.6: 'Action with a

Programme Commissions

view to better integration of training and research activities', which were complementary. An attempt had been made to achieve a better distribution of actions and a closer linkage between the activities proposed in the two programmes, in accordance with the wishes expressed at the twenty-second session of the General Conference and by the Executive Board. In 121 EX/Decision 4.1, the Executive Board had noted the progress made in regard to the concentration and structure of those programmes.

(595) Under Subprogramme V.5.1: 'Development and improvement of higher education for the advancement of society', priority was to be given to actions designed to strengthen regional and international co-operation and co-operation with the Member States with a view to developing and improving higher education systems; accordingly, 62.5 per cent of the activities in that subprogramme would be decentralized.

(596) The representative of the Director-General drew the delegates' attention to the fact that the activities connected with the committees responsible for applying the conventions on the recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education would be carried out under Subprogramme V.5.1 and not Subprogramme V.6.3 as was the case in 1984-1985. That transfer, which had been suggested by an internal working group set up by the Director-General in 1984 to carry out a critical examination of the programme, took account of the wishes expressed by certain Member States in their replies to the Director-General's questionnaire on the preparation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

(597) Under Subprogramme V.5.2: 'Research and training with a view to the development of education', priority was to be given, in accordance with the wish expressed by certain Member States, to the training of higher education personnel. Indeed, all the first-priority activities in that subprogramme related to the initial and in-service training of higher education personnel and educational research workers.

(598) Under Programme V.6: 'Action with a view to better integration of training and research activities', efforts in 1986-1987 were to be concentrated on the activities envisaged in Subprogramme V.6.2: 'Promotion of interdisciplinary training and research', in the fields of competence of Unesco, in particular through the execution of two pilot projects, the results of which could be used to develop a methodology for the integration of training and research activities with a view to solving specific development problems.

(599) The representative of the Director-General drew attention to the fact that the execution of the activities under Subprogramme V.6.1: 'Analysis of data on needs, trends and available

resources in the field of training and research', and Subprogramme V.6.3, which aimed to promote integrated training and research policies, would be postponed to a later biennium, except for those activities which related to the application of the conventions on the recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education and which were included in Subprogramme V.5.1.

Programme V.2: Teaching of science and technology

(600) Thirty-six speakers referred to Programme V.2. Many delegates emphasized the importance of science and technology for development and a growing recognition of the role of science and technology education in this respect. Satisfaction was expressed by many speakers with regard to the high priority given to Programme V.2 and with the increase in the resources allocated to it. General satisfaction was also expressed with the conception of the proposed programme, including the revised titles of the two subprogrammes and the proposed activities. One delegate indicated that the programme on science and technology education is very important for both developed and developing countries. Reference was made by several speakers to the importance of regional and subregional co-operation in this field. Access of girls and women to science and technology education was also referred to by several speakers, one of whom hoped that action in this area would be reinforced in co-operation with other related programmes, notably Programme II.4.

(601) Concerning Subprogramme V.2.1: 'Development of the teaching of science and technology in the school', many interventions focused on the activities for the exchange of ideas and information, with requests from many delegates for involvement of their countries in these activities. Reference was made to the useful work accomplished in the framework of the international network for information in science and technology education. The need for keeping the information up to date was also underlined. One delegate, speaking on behalf of a subregional group of European countries emphasized the value of network activities in catalysing new co-operative projects among the countries in this subregion. Many speakers referred to curriculum reform, production of new teaching materials and other innovative activities taking place in their countries which they would like to share with others. Unesco was requested to help in this exchange, particularly in relation to activities under paragraph 05205. One delegate said that account should be taken of the work of non-governmental organizations in implementing these activities. Another speaker referred to the 'Conference on Science and Technology Education and

Future Human Needs' organized by ICSU with Unesco support in Bangalore, India, in 1985. She indicated that this conference had been of high quality and suggested that Unesco should help to make its results widely available.

(602) Several delegates emphasized the need for continuous reform and updating of science teaching, and mentioned the importance of research and experimentation in this context. The studies and pilot projects in paragraph 05206 were also supported by several speakers, especially those concerning science and technology education and productive work, and the teaching of science in rural areas. Requests to participate in these pilot projects, as well as in those under paragraphs 05221 and 05222 were made, on behalf of the countries, by several delegates. Considerable interest was also shown in the introduction of new technologies in the education system. Two speakers mentioned pilot projects in this field that were taking place in their own countries. One of these indicated that he would welcome exchange of information and co-operation with Unesco in relation to the pilot project on computers in the teaching of science mentioned in paragraph 05206.

(603) Several delegates welcomed the new activities in mathematics and informatics teaching. One speaker indicated that the scope of computer literacy needs to be clarified. The importance of computer science was emphasized. One delegate suggested that Unesco should consider developing, within Major Programme V, a separate programme for new electronic technologies in the next programme and budget. He suggested this in view of the fact that many countries were introducing new technologies in the education programme. It is essential to know the eventual effect of these technologies on the learning process.

(604) A number of speakers stressed the importance of the teaching of the basic sciences, physics, chemistry and biology, and welcomed Unesco activities in these fields. They referred to their national experiences and expressed an interest to participate in Unesco activities. Reference was made to an international conference in physics education to be held in Japan in 1986, and Unesco's collaboration was sought. Unesco's activities in chemistry education were also commended by one speaker. Reference was made by another delegate to the need to relate science teaching to ecological problems such as pollution, de-forestation, etc., and promotion of the basic understanding of environmental problems. One speaker referred to the series, 'New Trends in Biology Teaching' (paragraph 05209) and asked whether an evaluation had been carried out to see if such Unesco publications have had an effect in the classroom. If not, she suggested that such

an evaluation should be made. One speaker indicated that paragraphs 05207 to 05209 (teaching of the scientific disciplines) may be of interest only to industrialized countries.

(605) Many delegates emphasized the importance of science and technology education for children and young people and the need to develop this type of education, in an integrated form, in primary schools. The need to initiate practical activities based on the local environment was also mentioned by several speakers. Reference was made to the basic problem of training large numbers of primary-school teachers to teach science in both developed and developing countries. The proposal in paragraph 05211 to organize an international seminar (category VII) for teacher educators responsible for the initial and refresher training in science of primary-school teachers was welcomed by several speakers. Several other delegates also indicated that their countries wished to participate in various activities in the paragraph. One speaker said that her country had considerable experience with integrated science teaching and would be glad to share it with others. Another delegate said that the secondary science teaching in many countries is too theoretical and disciplinary. He advocated more integrated science teaching and better adaptation of the science curricula to the needs of the pupils. The need for a more global approach to science teaching with less compartmentalization was also mentioned. Reference was made by one speaker to the need for greater interdisciplinarity.

(606) Several speakers mentioned the importance of technology in the context of general education. They referred to their national efforts in this field and indicated that work needs to be done on the organization of the content, methods and materials for technology education. They welcomed the programme of activities for technology education in paragraph 05212 and wished to participate in it. One speaker also mentioned the importance of the link between the teaching of science and of technology.

(607) Several speakers mentioned the value of nutrition and health education and gave accounts of their national activities. They also wished to participate in Unesco activities proposed in paragraph 05213. One delegate referred to the contribution of UNICEF and of other United Nations agencies to work in this field. Another speaker mentioned the importance of teaching health and nutrition in conjunction with other related curriculum areas. Two delegates questioned the priority accorded to the various subparagraphs of 05213. One felt that part (c) on development of curricula for health education, which is accorded second priority in draft 23 C/5, should be upgraded to

first priority. The other delegate questioned the placing of part (a) under first priority, when paragraph 05214 for science equipment development is only accorded second priority.

(608) Many speakers underlined the importance of materials and equipment and the difficulty that they were facing in providing necessary laboratory equipment for their schools. The need for the use of local materials for science teaching was emphasized and a number of these delegates said that they had set up equipment centres in their countries. They wished to exchange experience with others and requested Unesco to help them. Many speakers, in emphasizing the need for materials and equipment, proposed that activities foreseen under paragraph 05214 should be upgraded to first priority.

(609) The importance of training and re-training of teachers and other science education personnel was emphasized by most of the speakers, and the relatively high proportion of the resources of Programme V.2 devoted to these activities was appreciated by them. The need for more and better teacher training was particularly stressed by delegates from developing countries, and many speakers underlined the importance of in-service training. The workshop method for in-service training was recommended by one speaker, and the role of teachers in producing simple equipment and teaching aids was also mentioned. In-service training was deemed necessary not only for untrained teachers, but also to help teachers to keep up to date with modern content and methods, especially new technologies. The importance of the work of science teachers associations in relation to in-service training and support services for teachers was also mentioned. One speaker suggested that study tours for key personnel, under 05215(c) should be upgraded to first priority.

(610) Many speakers referred to the importance of Subprogramme V.2.2: 'Out-of-school science and technology education', and the need for out-of-school scientific activities and extension programmes. One speaker underlined the importance of the media in dissemination of scientific information. The need to provide information about science and technology to all members of society with a view to creating a climate favourable to the development of science and technology was mentioned. Reference was also made to the needs of young people who are outside the school system.

(611) Among the out-of-school activities that were mentioned, several speakers referred to science fairs and to scientific olympiads. One delegate suggested that Unesco should establish a working group to explore ways of enlarging the scope of olympiads with a view to increasing participation. Another speaker indicated that a very successful Unesco international seminar

on out-of-school scientific activities had been organized in his country and he was happy to see provision for follow-up to this activity in document 23 C/5. The pilot project on community resources for out-of-school science education (paragraph 05221) was supported by several speakers.

(612) In relation to paragraph 05222 (Extension work services) several speakers endorsed the link proposed, in the execution of these activities, with Subprogramme IX.1.2 (Science, technology and society). Other speakers referred to the need for links with literacy projects, youth programmes and activities relating to access of girls and women to education. The production of multi-media kits to promote science and technology extension work was endorsed by one speaker.

(613) With regard to strengthening infrastructures for science and technology education, activities under the relevant proposed actions were supported by many speakers. Reference was made to the Japanese Government's continued interest in mobile teams for science teaching, which was financed through Funds-in-Trust. One delegate noted, with appreciation, support through the Major Project in Latin America.

Programme V.5: Higher education, training and research

(614) Forty-one delegates, one observer from an intergovernmental organization and two observers from non-governmental organizations took part in the debate on Programme V.5: 'Higher education, training and research', and V.6: 'Action with a view to better integration of training and research activities'. Forty delegates expressed their countries' interest in co-operation in higher education and in activities designed to enhance the contribution of such education to the advancement of societies, the solution of development-related problems and the training of personnel for the endogenous development of each country.

(615) Several delegates referred to the progress made in concentrating and structuring these two programmes. One welcomed the clarity of the targets as stated in paragraph 05503 and the expected results in paragraph 05504 (Subprogramme V.5.1) and expressed the hope that, on completion of programme execution, an analysis would be made to assess to what extent those results had in fact been attained.

(616) In general, the activities proposed under these two programmes met with favourable comment, many delegates expressing regret that the programmes were to be subjected to sizeable budgetary cuts. These delegates stressed the need for more prominence and more substantial funds to be allotted to higher education in the preparation of the next biennium and Unesco's next

Medium-Term Plan because of the role of higher education in the development of society.

(617) One delegate noted that in Subprogramme V.5.1, 40 per cent of available funds were earmarked for conferences, meetings and studies and barely 25 per cent for training and advisory services, which he did not think was a balanced distribution. Another delegate, referring to Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6, which he supported, remarked that it was proposed to use over half of the resources allocated to those programmes to cover administrative expenses and that it would be desirable to reallocate part of those funds to programme activities.

(618) One delegate stated that Programmes V.5 and V.6 corresponded with the concerns underlying the recent reform of the higher education system in his country, which was aimed at making higher education more relevant to the realities of the modern world, taking greater account of locational requirements and improving the quality of training courses. The same delegate felt that those programmes should form the core of all of Unesco's higher education and research activities. He requested that a table recapitulating all Unesco's higher education, training and research activities be drawn up and be included in the Approved Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, as an annex to Major Programme V. His request was submitted in the form of a draft resolution (23 C/DR.159). Several delegates supported his proposal.

(619) One speaker considered that Programme V.5 and V.6 bore witness to the relevance of the thrust of Unesco's activities in education. He said that three priorities could be singled out: (1) encouragement to increased involvement by higher education in solving problems relating to the development of each country; (2) promotion of interdisciplinary training and research; and (3) strengthening of national and regional capacities.

(620) Another speaker considered that an important factor in higher education systems was democratization at all levels, particularly through equal access to education and equal opportunities for completing studies undertaken and for integration into the world of work.

(621) Another delegate said that it was higher education that moulded people's minds, and that Unesco should accordingly give the same attention to higher education as to literacy training. One delegate stressed the importance of that programme for the developing countries. Another considered that Programme V.5 had been so designed as to be of interest to the developed as well as the developing countries. Some delegates emphasized the importance that should be attached to the role of higher education in promoting international

understanding of education relating to human rights and the rights of peoples and environmental education.

(622) While expressing his agreement with the distribution of funds under this programme, one delegate requested a reduction of the resources allocated in paragraph 05505(a) (IIEP studies) and a corresponding increase in allocations to activities under 05505(e) (training of personnel in new vocational areas). He also proposed a reduction in resources and a transfer of funds from paragraph 05506(a) (consultation on the use of new technologies in higher education) to paragraph 05506(c) (introduction of computerized information processing).

(623) One delegate, having informed the Commission of the basic features of the university system in his country, said that that system was undergoing a genuine renewal and that the activities undertaken to that effect placed emphasis on the training of new specialists at a higher level. Measures had accordingly been taken to ensure that teachers were as well qualified as possible. He hoped that fruitful co-operation would be further developed in the future between his country and Unesco under Major Programme V.

(624) Several delegates wished higher priority to be given to Subprogramme V.5.1: 'Development and improvement of higher education for the advancement of society'.

(625) One delegate expressed the view that it was at the level of higher education systems and institutions that the problems of making education systems more relevant to the economic and socio-cultural needs of society were most acute. She said that higher education, with its significant multiplier effect, was the starting-point for innovative trends that could permeate teaching and teacher training as a whole. She said that the educational reforms now under way in her country had begun with a reform of the university, which had been made responsible for the training of all education personnel.

(626) Since higher education should contribute to the training of the great variety of personnel and specialists required for national development, one delegate said that, because it was difficult to predict future needs, some flexibility was needed in training to enable graduates to adjust to some extent to the requirements of the labour market.

(627) One delegate said that one of the merits of this subprogramme was that it prevented higher-level training centres from becoming isolated by enabling links to be established with national development and training plans.

(628) One delegate considered that Unesco could play an important role by encouraging the developed countries and their higher educational institutions to establish networks of the co-operation

Programme Commissions

with similar institutions in the developing countries. Pointing out that regional mechanisms for co-operation in education already existed and received substantial support, he felt that Unesco should proceed with caution in considering the establishment of new mechanisms.

(629) Noting with interest that many of the activities proposed under Programme V.5 and V.6 were aimed at promoting co-operation and the exchange of experience with the developing countries, one delegate hoped that those activities would make an important contribution to the development of those countries' education systems.

(630) Some delegates referred to the conclusions relating to higher education of the third Conference of Ministers of Education of Member States of the Europe Region, which was held in Sofia 1980. One of them considered that the participation of higher education in the development of education systems and in the overall training effort should remain a priority goal.

(631) Several delegates supported the actions designed to promote the adaptation and contribution of systems and institutions of higher education to the advancement of society (paragraph 05505), with particular reference to the studies that the International Institute for Educational Planning was to undertake on the interaction between higher education and the needs of scientific and technological development. One delegate pointed out that those studies should make it possible to determine what were the most effective ways in which institutions of higher education could help in finding objective answers to economic and social needs. Another delegate felt that, in future, such studies might also deal with the planning of the management and administration of research.

(632) Several delegates considered that the studies on foreseeable demographic trends up to the year 2000 and their implications for the planning of higher education systems were of great interest. One of them emphasized that his country had an obvious interest in them because of the problems that were arising with regard to the employment of young people who had had a higher education.

(633) Several delegates stressed the importance of the activities provided for in subparagraph 05505(d) concerning technical and financial aid to Member States, particularly the least developed countries, in the form of advisory services, contracts and documentation, and asked to benefit from them.

(634) Some speakers emphasized their countries' interest in the activity proposed in subparagraph 05505(e) concerning support for centres or units responsible for the establishment of short training courses in new vocational areas, catering, in particular, to the

actual needs of the least developed countries; they regretted that the activity was still graded as second priority.

(635) On the subject of the encouragement of innovatory trends with a view to enhancing the contribution made by higher education to meeting the needs of society, 15 delegates stressed the importance of using new technologies to improve the quality of higher education, and evinced their interest in the activities proposed in paragraph 05506(a), with particular reference to the international consultation to take stock of the use of new technologies in higher-level distance education. Some of them also spoke in support of the activity proposed in subparagraph 05506(c) concerning studies on the introduction of computerized information-processing for the organization of studies in institutions of higher education.

(636) One delegate stressed that greater use should be made of various low-cost methods, such as distance education, in higher education, and added that the activities provided for in that field under paragraph 05506 would be useful to his country. Another delegate considered that his country, which already had extensive experience of distance education systems, would naturally be ready to take part in that activity.

(637) Another delegate drew the Commission's attention to the fact that two universities in his country had had noteworthy experience in that field and would like to co-operate with Unesco.

(638) One delegate reminded the Commission that a recommendation approved by congresses organized by the United Nations and Unesco contemplated the establishment of a centre for science and technology education at the tertiary level in a developing country, and informed it that the centre had just been established in his country. He asked for Unesco's collaboration for the operation of the centre, through the award of scholarships among other things.

(639) A great many delegates confirmed that Member States were very interested in the activities relating to international and regional co-operation in higher education. They drew the Commission's attention to the important part played in that field by Unesco's Regional Offices for Education, and by the regional centres for higher education.

(640) Twelve delegates referred specifically to the activities of the European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES), and stressed the important part it was called upon to play in promoting regional and international co-operation in higher education. They expressed their satisfaction at the efficient way in which the Centre was discharging its responsibilities, and several of them said they hoped that its activities would continue to develop. Two

delegates pointed out that the financial aid and moral support received from Member States had made it possible to expand and diversify the Centre's activities and to enhance their quality, and other speakers confirmed that their countries were ready to continue actively supporting the Centre's work.

(641) One delegate was of the opinion that the Centre's intellectual potential and its links with higher education systems should enable it to move on from the pooling of information and experience to real co-ordination of research and training programmes; he was therefore in favour of increasing the role of the regional centres in the planning of the programme for the third biennium of the second Medium-Term Plan. One delegate, referring to the symposium on higher education and research organized by CEPES, emphasized the need for an intersectoral approach in order to promote the establishment of networks for co-operation between high quality institutions active in the field of science and research. Four delegates drew attention to the efficiency of CEPES as the secretariat of the Committee for the Application of the Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region. One delegate was pleased that, since the last session of the General Conference, the Centre's technical infrastructure has been considerably improved, and asked for a detailed work plan for CEPES to be submitted to the General Conference, as had been requested in the case of the IBE and the IIEP. One delegate, after commending the quality of the Centre's work, and after urging that the high quality of its staff be maintained, asked for its activities to be evaluated by outside experts and said that his country would like to look into the self-assessment study undertaken by CEPES for the period 1981-1984.

(642) All the representatives from the Latin America and Caribbean Region who spoke in the debate stressed the importance of the activities of the Regional Centre for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CRESALC) and said that their countries fully supported those co-operation activities. One speaker drew attention particularly to the considerable progress that the Centre's activities had shown in the past two years. Another hoped that Unesco would continue to encourage the Centre's activities in terms of information, exchange and co-operation, and appealed to the Member States of the region to increase their financial support for the Centre.

(643) Three delegates referred to the activities of the Regional Office for Education in Asia and the Pacific (ROEAP), and the significant role it played in co-operation in the field of higher education in the region. Two of

them spoke of the importance of the Regional Co-operative Programme for Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific referred to in paragraph 05507(b)(iv) and considered that it should be reinforced. One added that his country was prepared to co-operate in that programme.

(644) One delegate, having mentioned the beneficial effects of the work of ROEAP in higher education in his country, asked that Unesco should increase the resources available to the Regional Office for implementation of the activities under Programmes V.2 and V.5.

(645) The representative of one intergovernmental organization referred to the activities of the Arab States Centre for Higher Education, which operated under the authority of that organization. He expressed interest in close co-operation with Unesco and asked that the Organization should also give financial support to the activities of the Centre.

(646) Several delegates spoke of the activities connected with providing support for regional co-operation for the application of the conventions on the recognition of studies, diplomas and degrees in higher education. One of those delegates said that his country, which had recently ratified one of those conventions, wished to strengthen its links of co-operation in that important field with other countries of the region or with other regions, developing exchanges of students, researchers and people in search of employment.

(647) Some delegates held that Unesco should encourage Member States to accede to those conventions. One delegate, having emphasized that those conventions strengthened international co-operation, said that his country appreciated the work of Unesco with a view to preparing a world convention in that area.

(648) In the same context, one delegate spoke of the role higher education could play fostering mobility; another emphasized the importance of the training of personnel for higher education and of working to prevent a brain drain in order to ensure the progress of society, especially in developing countries.

(649) Several delegates supported Unesco's activities of co-operation with international organizations and institutions. One speaker considered that it would be very useful to make a detailed analysis of the scale and the effects of that collaboration. In the light of the results of that analysis, Unesco could consider the possibility of redistributing funds among those organizations. Another speaker maintained that it was absolutely necessary that Unesco should strengthen international co-operation in that field.

(650) One delegate, however, regretted that support for the activities

Programme Commissions

of the Unesco/AUPELF working group had been given second priority, and he expressed the wish that Unesco should find the means to continue co-operation with that non-governmental organization.

(651) Another speaker referred to the pilot project conducted by AUPELF with the collaboration of Unesco (the 'prelude' project), which allowed many researchers from North and South to meet and discuss management of research in developing countries and reinforcement of their capacity for consolidating their own research structures.

(652) The representative of a non-governmental organization of teachers, including teachers in higher education, considered that the trend in Unesco towards giving greater attention to higher education was very positive, and emphasized that non-governmental organizations of the teaching profession should be involved in the carrying out of the higher education programme.

(653) The representative of a non-governmental organization of universities from all regions spoke of the close and fruitful co-operation that existed between that organization and Unesco in higher education. He said that his organization shared with Unesco an attachment to the principle of universality, on condition that that principle was not confused with an encyclopedic approach to activities, which could be counter-productive. He voiced his organization's appreciation for the subvention it received from Unesco and he announced that his organization would be ready, if it were invited, to co-operate closely not only with the Education Sector, but also with the other sectors. Joint action made it possible in particular to promote multi-lateral exchanges between government officials and academics.

(654) One delegate spoke of Unesco's fulfilment of its responsibilities under the Charter of the United Nations University (UNU) and of the execution of the joint activities of those two institutions. He stressed the importance of the role of UNU in co-operation between universities at the international level, and he asked that collaboration between Unesco and that organization be reinforced. He pointed out that the UNU was, this year, celebrating its tenth anniversary and welcomed the preliminary work with a view to the establishment of a training and research centre for the University, in Finland (the World Institute for Development and Economic Research), as well as the preparations for the establishment of another centre in the Ivory Coast. He hoped that Member States would participate actively in the efforts to strengthen the UNU and that Unesco would discharge in full the responsibilities assigned to it by the Charter of the University.

(655) Most delegates expressed support for the activities contained in Subprogramme V.5.2: 'Research and

training with a view to the development of education'. Several delegates showed particular interest in the notion of the integration of training and research, which one speaker described as two indissociable aspects of higher education. The delegates stressed the importance of the training and in-service training of higher education personnel and educational research workers.

(656) Referring to the experience of his country, one delegate pointed out that projects for the training of higher education personnel should be matched by the closer adjustment of higher education to the reality of the modern world, by more specific consideration of professional objectives and by improving the quality of the various branches of training. The same delegation was pleased to note that Programmes V.5 and V.6 reflected this concern.

(657) Several delegates supported the activities designed to develop a co-operative network of higher education institutions. One delegate expressed satisfaction with the network that had just been established in Latin America, the purpose of which was the building up of exchanges of experience, the pooling of resources and the organization of joint activities related to the training and further training of higher education personnel and educational research workers.

(658) In view of the shortcomings that had been noted in the teacher training of higher education personnel, the representative of an international non-governmental organization connected with the teaching profession regretted that the proposed action in paragraph 05515(c) involving research projects for inter alia, the training of teaching staff, had been relegated to second priority.

(659) Some delegates stressed the need to increase activities relating to the teacher training of higher education personnel, and to step up international and regional co-operation activities between Unesco and national higher education establishments and between these establishments themselves.

(660) One delegate was pleased to see the proposal in Subprogramme V.5.2 to allocate over 60 per cent of resources to training activities and to technical and advisory services.

Programme V.6: Action with a view to better integration of training and research activities

(661) Thirty-six delegates referred to Programme V.6, most of them supporting the activities proposed under Subprogramme V.6.2: 'Promotion of interdisciplinary training and research'. Some delegates expressed their support for the amalgamation - for the 1986-1987 biennium - of the activities of Subprogramme V.6.3 with those of Subprogramme V.5.1 as well as the

postponement to 1988-1989 of the implementation of the activities provided under Subprogramme V.6.1. Several delegates, however, regretted this postponement having regard to the relatively high priority which they assigned to this subprogramme.

(662) Many delegates stressed the importance attached by their countries to Programme V.6, which dealt with the links between training and research. One delegate pointed out that the activities undertaken under Programme V.6 should be dealt with in close conjunction with those under Programme V.6. Other speakers also supported the idea that Subprogramme V.6.2 should be attached to Programme V.5. Another delegate noted with interest that this programme sought to dovetail training and research activities in order to make the best possible use of resources. However, he expressed doubts concerning the choice of activities making up the programme. Another delegate said that it was of capital importance as regards the objectives of this programme that sectoral compartmentalization should be overcome and that an interrelationship should be established between research and training activities in the Education Sector and the corresponding activities in the Science Sector. Another delegate also pointed out that the effective decentralization of training and research activities was possible at the higher education institution level. Another delegate noted that this subprogramme encouraged the exchange of information and experience between the developed and the developing countries.

(663) Some delegates emphasized the importance of the ideas and actions set out in Programme V.6 regarding greater participation by higher education in solving problems linked with national development.

(664) Referring to the experience of his own country, another delegate pointed out that the quality of the education provided at primary and secondary schools depended to a great extent on the calibre and the number of qualified teachers trained by the various branches of higher education.

(665) Several delegates stressed the importance that their countries attached to the promotion of interdisciplinarity in training and research activities. One of them noted that the types of training based on separate disciplines had become outdated. Another referred to the strengthening of co-operation between higher education establishments and other training and research institutions in regard to interdisciplinary training and research. A third delegate said that his country was ready to participate in a co-operative network of higher education establishments engaged in training and research and that it would fully support the actions proposed in paragraph 05605 for the preparation of a methodology for

the integration of training and research activities with a view to solving specific development problems. Another delegate added that the interdisciplinary approach should make it possible for education, and for other disciplines as well, to take account of technological advances.

Reply by the representative
of the Director-General

(666) Replying to the debate, the representative of the Director-General emphasized that the great majority of the delegates who had spoken on discussion unit 8 considered that the draft programme was in conformity with the lines of emphasis of the Medium-Term Plan and the directives given by the governing bodies, and had declared themselves satisfied, generally speaking, with the proposals submitted, in particular as concerns the priority given to the teaching of science and technology and to technical and vocational education. He assured the Commission that account would be taken of the observations concerning the arrangement of Major Programme V, in particular for the preparation of the next Medium-Term Plan, and he thanked all the delegates who had made offers of co-operation with a view to the execution of the programme.

(667) Referring to the many favourable comments that had been made concerning the European Centre for Higher Education (CEPES) and the Regional Centre for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (CRESALC), the representative of the Director-General again thanked the authorities of the respective host countries, Romania and Venezuela. Those two centres had benefited in the 1984-1985 biennium from the particularly active support of the Member States, who had borne part of the cost of their activities, thus increasing their regional influence. It was to be hoped that that very positive trend would continue and grow.

(668) Some delegates expressed their concern about the reduction in the budget provisions for Programmes V.5 and V.6, and the representative of the Director-General pointed out that there was, as far as he knew, no programme for which one or more speakers had not asked for an increase in resources. The Director-General was, however, required to respect the directives and the budget framework established by the governing bodies in the proposals that he submitted to the General Conference in document 23 C/5. In the present case, the Executive Board had decided that emphasis in Major Programme V should be placed mainly on the teaching of science and technology and on technical and vocational education. Due note would nevertheless be taken of the wish expressed by certain delegations that more attention should be paid to higher

Programme Commissions

education, which they considered to have a crucial part to play for education in a changing world. The representative of the Director-General invited all the Member States to join in that process of reflection, particularly with a view to the preparation of the Organization's third Medium-Term Plan.

(669) One delegate having expressed the wish that participation in the science olympiads foreseen under Sub-programme V.2.2 should be widened and that a working group should be set up to study that question, the representative of the Director-General said that possibility would be considered, in particular for the benefit of the developing countries.

(670) Replying to a delegate who thought that the teaching of science should not be cut off from the realities of the world and could therefore not be dissociated from the study of ecological problems, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that those problems were dealt with in document 23 C/5 under Programme X.9: 'Environmental education and information'.

(671) Commenting on the distribution of the 'New trends' publications in the series 'The teaching of basic sciences', with reference to which one delegate had asked if an impact evaluation had been carried out, the representative of the Director-General stated that those publications were intended for the in-service training of key personnel having a multiplier effect, such as teacher educators, whose work exerts an effect on the practice of education. Since the Organization had had to reprint several of those publications, there were grounds for thinking that they had indeed reached the specialized audience for which they were intended.

(672) Replying to a delegate who considered that, in some of the programmes considered under unit 8, the ratio of staff costs to programme activity costs was too high, the representative of the Director-General again emphasized that staff whose remuneration came under the execution of the regular programme were also responsible for implementing the extra-budgetary activities financed by the United Nations Development Programme. Taking account of all those activities, the real proportion of staff costs was, for example, 40 per cent (and not 60 per cent) for Programme V.5.

(673) The evaluation of the activities of CEPES, about which one delegate had inquired, began in 1982 and had since been continued in the framework of Unesco's Programme Evaluation and Monitoring System (PEMS). The findings were submitted annually to the Advisory Committee of CEPES and provided the basis for its recommendations on the Centre's programme of work. The possibility of carrying out an evaluation going beyond that internal study could

be considered in the framework of the work to be assigned to the recently created Central Evaluation Unit.

(674) As one delegate had referred to Unesco's role *vis-à-vis* the United Nations University, the representative of the Director-General recalled that the Director-General had always fulfilled all his responsibilities with regard to the UNU as defined in the University's Charter and would continue to do so. He emphasized that the Director-General had also taken several initiatives to ensure closer co-operation between the two institutions and that that co-operation covered several activities, particularly in the fields of science and social science. It was also the Director-General who had taken the lead in the general consultations between UNU and the Secretariat, the first of which had already taken place and which were additional to the consultations between the vice-rectors of the University and the various units at Headquarters. As an *ex-officio* member of the UNU Council, the Director-General was always represented on it.

(675) As regards the Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific, signed in Bangkok in December 1983, the representative of the Director-General stated that 21 Member States had signed the Final Act and 12 had signed the text of the Convention, which two Member States had so far ratified. The Convention entered into force for those two States on 23 October 1985. The representative of the Director-General appealed to Member States in that connection, reminding them that the regional committee foreseen by the Convention to monitor its application could meet for the first time when the sixth instrument of ratification or acceptance had been deposited. He listed the six regional conventions which had already entered into force in that field under the auspices of Unesco, and referred to the prospects, which one delegate had mentioned, for the preparation, in the longer term, of an international convention.

(676) Concluding his reply, which represented his last statement to the Commission, the representative of the Director-General made a point of emphasizing once more what an irreplaceable source of ideas, guidance and proposals the debate on the programme represented for the Secretariat. After thanking all the speakers for that dialogue and for a fruitful exchange of views which, perhaps even more so than in the past, had concentrated on the practical, detailed realities of the draft programme and budget, he assured them that all their observations and suggestions, written and oral, would be closely studied and widely used by the Secretariat, whether for the execution of the approved

programme in 1986-1987 or for the preparation of the forthcoming biennial programme and medium-term programme.

Draft resolutions and other decisions

(677) The Commission then examined (i) the draft resolutions referring to Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6 or to paragraphs 11(b), 11(e) and 11(f) of proposed resolution 5.1, (ii) the work plans corresponding to Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6 and the budget summaries relating to Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6, and (iii) the recommendations of the working group concerning draft resolutions 23 C/DR.38, 23 C/DR.63 amended, 23 C/DR.143 and 23 C/DR.190, and their implications for the budgets and first and second priority activities in Major Programmes II, IV and V.

(678) One of the sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/DR.256 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand), withdrew his proposal on the understanding that those parts of it relating to the exchange of information, research and training within the framework of the APEID and co-operation between countries would be reflected in the work plan, as indicated in the Note by the Director-General.

(679) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.114 (Australia), the Commission decided (a) to amend the proposal as follows:

(i) in the third paragraph, to replace the word 'specific' by 'sufficient';

(ii) in the fourth paragraph, to replace the sentence beginning 'Believers' by the following:

'Recommends that, the application of new electronic technologies being such an important subject, 23 C/5 Approved should include a recapitulation of activities in this area';

(iii) to word the last paragraph as follows:

'Recommends that, in the preparation of the 24 C/5, provision should be made for the further strengthening of the activities having to do with the application of new technologies in education according to a global conception of the field under consideration', and (b) to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 4.11).

(680) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.150 (Congo), the Commission, in the light of the Note by the Director-General, decided (a) to amend proposed resolution 5.1 by inserting a new preambular paragraph as suggested in the seventh paragraph of the proposal, and (b) to take note of the fact that subparagraph (iv) of the draft resolution would be reflected in the final version of the work plan, as indicated in the Note by the Director-General.

(681) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.210 (Bulgaria and Romania), the Commission decided after a discussion to amend it as follows:

(i) in the paragraph beginning with the words 'Referring to', to delete the last part of the paragraph after 'paragraph 26' and to cite the text of this paragraph at the end of the resolution;

(ii) in the paragraph beginning with the word 'Emphasizing', replace the word 'security' by 'international understanding';

(iii) in the paragraph beginning with the words 'Noting with satisfaction', replace those words by 'Recognizing';

(iv) insert, after that paragraph, a new paragraph to read as follows:

'Recognizing the need to ensure that the high quality of the Centre's staff is maintained';

(v) after that, insert a further new paragraph to read as follows:

'Considering it important that the activities of CEPES should be evaluated by external consultants, as provided in paragraph 05507(d) of document 23 C/5';

(vi) in the second paragraph of the operative part, add the words 'scientific and' after 'their role in'.

The Commission then decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the draft resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 5.6).

(682) In the light of the Note by the Director-General, the sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.221 (Kenya) withdrew his proposal.

(683) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.159 (France), the Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the resolution, it being understood that the recapitulatory table referred to in the operative paragraph of this proposal could be prepared for the end of 1986 (23 C/Resolution 5.7).

(684) The sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.72 (India) withdrew his proposal in favour of draft resolution 23 C/DR.214, submitted by a group of Member States including his own country.

(685) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.214 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand), the Commission decided (i) to amend the third preambular paragraph of the proposal by replacing the words 'the best' by the words 'a good', and (ii) to recommend that the General Conference should adopt the draft resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 5.5).

(686) The Commission, with the agreement of the sponsor of draft resolution 23 C/DR.98 (Yugoslavia), which had already been examined under unit 6, accepted the proposal of the delegate of Japan to delete the words 'to that end', which appeared in the amendment to proposed resolution 4.1 as suggested in draft resolution 23 C/DR.98. While accepting this deletion, the delegate of the Ukrainian SSR

Programme Commissions

pointed out that the procedure used was not in conformity with the one established in Commission.

(687) The Commission also decided to insert the words 'and the practical training of teachers' after the words 'educational process' in paragraph 11(c)(i) of proposed resolution 5.1, as suggested orally by the delegate of Algeria.

(688) The Commission considered the report of the working group, which proposed the following modifications to the budgets and priorities of activities in Major Programmes II, IV and V:

1. For Major Programme II:

(a) for paragraph 02113(d), transfer to first priority \$40,000;

(b) for paragraph 02305, increase the resources for this activity by \$30,000;

(c) for paragraph 02306, increase the resources for this activity by \$15,000;

(d) for paragraph 02412, increase the resources for this activity by \$30,000;

(e) for paragraph 02508(b), transfer to first priority \$60,000.

2. For Major Programme IV:

(a) for paragraph 04107(c), the resources of this activity having already been reduced by \$140,000 in connection with the recommendation of the Commission to delay MINEDEUROPE IV to 1988, further reduce the resources by \$60,000;

(b) for paragraph 04107 (f), request a sum of \$137,000 under first priority from the 'Reserve for Draft Resolutions';

(c) for paragraph 04207(a), reduce the resources for this activity by \$40,000;

(d) for paragraph 04207(c), reduce the resources for this activity by \$15,000;

(e) for paragraph 04406(b), reduce the resources for this activity by \$20,000.

3. For Major Programme V:

(a) for paragraph 05214, request from the 'Reserve for Draft Resolutions' an amount of \$100,000 under first priority;

(b) for paragraph 05328(d), transfer to first priority \$50,000;

(c) for paragraph 05329(c), transfer to first priority \$50,000.

(689) With the understanding, as explained by the Chairman, that the recommendations of the working group superseded those of the individual draft resolutions examined by it, the Commission decided: (a) to modify its previous recommendations to the General Conference concerning Major Programme II and IV in the manner resulting from the recommendations of the working group relative to 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom) and 23 C/DR.190 (USSR); (b) to reflect in its recommendations to the General Conference concerning Major Programme V the relevant recommendations of the working group concerning 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom); (c) in accordance with the recommendations of the working group

concerning 23 C/DR.38 and 23 C/DR.63 (Nigeria), to recommend to the General Conference that it should allot from the 'Reserve for draft resolutions', the amounts necessary to finance as first priority activities those foreseen in paragraphs 04107(f) (\$137,000) and, first and foremost, those in paragraph 05214 (\$100,000).

(690) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the work plans of Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6, with the modifications agreed upon during the consideration both of the draft resolutions pertaining to discussion unit 8 and of the recommendations of the working group, subject to further modifications which may result from the joint meeting of the Programme and Administrative Commissions.

(691) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the budgetary provisions as modified by the action of the Commission, as recorded above, for Programmes V.2, V.5 and V.6 and of the participation programme, found respectively in paragraphs 05201, 05501, 05601 and 05701 of document 23 C/5, subject to further modifications which may result from the joint meeting of the Programme and Administrative Commissions.

(692) Noting that, in addition to amendments to proposed resolution 5.1 already adopted, as recorded above, it was necessary: (1) in the light of its choice of option 1 with regard to the placing of certain activities in either Major Programme IV or V, to delete from the resolution paragraph 11(a) and to change the designations of the remaining parts of paragraph 11, and (2) in the light of the decision to choose option 2 of Subprogramme V.4.1, to retain only the second of the two alternative paragraphs 11(d)(iii), the Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt proposed resolution 5.1, as amended (23 C/Resolution 5.1).

(693) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should approve for Major Programme V, under the regular programme (paragraph 05001 of 23 C/5) the sum of \$13,434,300 after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) a sum of \$4,451,400 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the reserve for draft resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(694) The Commission having deferred consideration of the portion of 23 C/DR.128 (France) which affected programmes of discussion unit 3, it now took action on this draft resolution and

in the light of its acceptance of the recommendations of the working group, modified the results of some of its prior actions relative to Major Programmes II and IV.

(695) Concerning document 23 C/DR.128 (France), the Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference: (a) that the activities proposed in paragraph 02307 of the draft document 23 C/5 should be placed in Part IX of the budget and (b) that activities proposed in paragraph 02506(b) of draft document 23 C/5 should be retained in Part II.A of the budget.

(696) Relative to Major Programme II, the Commission decided:

(a) to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the modifications to the work plans and budgetary provisions of the individual Programmes of Major Programme II in accordance with the Commissions actions both on the recommendations of the working group and on the portions of draft resolution 128 relevant to discussion unit 3, and

(b) to change its earlier recommendations to the General Conference for Parts II.A and IX of the budget to US \$26,148,500 and US \$7,743,600 respectively.

(697) With regard to Major Programme IV, the Commission decided:

(a) in the light of its choice of

option 1 concerning the placing of certain activities in either Major Programme IV or V, to retain in proposed resolution 4.1 the paragraph 10(b)(vi) and 10(b)(vii);

(b) in the light of its acceptance of the recommendations of the working group:

(i) to modify accordingly its recommendations to the General Conference concerning Parts II.A and IX of the budget for Major Programme IV to \$29,318,000 and \$9,296,400 respectively;

(ii) to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the resulting modifications to the work plans and budgetary provisions for the programmes of Major Programme IV, and

(iii) to change to \$5,744,400 the figure in proposed resolution 4.2, it being understood that \$4,626,200 are recommended for first priority and \$1,118,200 will be put in Part IX of the budget.

(698) At the end of the meeting, the delegate of the Ukrainian SSR congratulated the Chairman of the Commission on the tact and efficiency with which he had conducted the discussions, and the Director-General and Secretariat on their excellent work in preparing the necessary documents, and he expressed his satisfaction at the quality of the work done by the Commission. The Commission associated itself with this praise.

C. Report of Commission III

Introduction

- Examination of item 3.5
and of item 6.5
- Discussion Unit 14 - Major Programme IX: Science, technology and society
 - Possibility, desirability and relevance of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology
- Examination of item 3.5
- Discussion Unit 15 - Major Programme X: The human environment and terrestrial and marine resources
- Examination of item 3.5
and of item 4.2
- Discussion Unit 9 - Major Programme VI: The sciences and their application to development (Programmes VI.1, VI.2 and VI.3)
 - Setting up of an 'Intergovernmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme
- Examination of item 3.5
- Discussion Unit 10 - Major Programme VI: The sciences and their application to development (Programme V.4)
- Recommendations relating to Major Programmes VI, IX and X and items 4.2 and 6.5

INTRODUCTION

Election of Officers and adoption of the timetable

(1) At its first meeting, on 9 October 1985, Commission III elected H.E. Mr Marcel Roche (Venezuela) Chairman by acclamation.

(2) At its second meeting, on 22 October 1985, it unanimously elected its other officers, namely: Vice-Chairmen: Mr Gratton Wilson (Australia), Mr Laurent Biffot (Gabon), Mr Fayik S. Abdul-Razzak (Iraq), Prof. Ignacy Malecki (Poland), Rapporteur: Prof. Syed Jalaludin (Malaysia).

(3) The Commission then adopted its timetable of work (23 C/COM.III/1).

Organization and methods of work

(4) Commission III was established in pursuance of the decisions taken by the General Conference on the basis of the recommendations of the Executive Board at its 121st session (document 23 C/2): Under item 3.5, the Commission was responsible for examining the following parts of document 23 C/5:

Major Programme VI (The sciences and their application to development);

Major Programme IX (Science, technology and society);

Major Programme X (The human environment and terrestrial and marine resources).

It also examined the following items:

Item 2.2 - Statement and evaluation of major impacts, achievements, difficulties and shortfalls for each continuing programme activity in 1984-1985;

Item 4.2 - Setting up of an 'Inter-governmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme;

Item 6.5 - Possibility, timeliness and desirability of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology.

(5) Between 22 October and 2 November the Commission devoted 20 meetings to consideration of agenda items 3.5, 2.2, 4.2 and 6.5. The discussion on the three Major Programmes VI, IX and X covered by item 3.5 was organized on the basis of four discussion units (units 9, 10, 14 and 15). Part of meetings seventeen and twenty were spent in considering resolutions 9.1, 10.1 and 6.1 of Major Programmes IX, X and VI respectively, and the budget provision of the three Major Programmes.

(6) Each discussion unit was in four main parts: introduction, by the representative of the Director-General, of the major programme, or part of the major programme covered by the unit; statements by delegates; reply by the representative of the Director-General; recommendations of the Commission on the proposed draft resolutions, on the relevant part of the general resolution, on the work plan and on the budget corresponding to the major programme or part of the major programme in question.

(7) The Commission's report consists of a narrative summary of the discussions held on the discussion units and the recommendations concerning each unit, and of the discussion on the general resolutions 6.1, 9.1 and 10.1.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 14 - MAJOR PROGRAMME IX: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY AND OF ITEM 6.5 - POSSIBILITY, DESIRABILITY AND RELEVANCE OF ADOPTING A GENERAL RECOMMENDATION, DECLARATION OR CONVENTION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(8) Commission III devoted its second, third, fourth and fifth meetings to consideration of discussion unit 14, which covers the two elements of Major Programme IX: Programme IX.1 (Study and improvement of the relationship between science, technology and society) and Programme IX.2 (Science and technology policies). The corresponding section of document 23 C/5 (paragraphs 09101 to 09303) and the proposed resolution (paragraph 09002) relating to Major Programme IX were considered, together with documents 23 C/81, 23 C/82, 23 C/83, 23 C/83 Corr. and Add. (E only), 23 C/INF.9 and 23 C/DRs.31, 107, 109, 113, 134, 143, 143 Add., 143 Add.2, 143 Annex, 181, 237, 240, 242 and 252. The Commission also examined item 6.5: Possibility, desirability and relevance of

adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology, giving consideration to documents 23 C/30 and 23 C/INF.8.

(9) The Chairman of the Commission made an introductory statement. He recalled the polarization of the world between the 'have's' and the 'have-not's', the independent and the dependent, and the exploiting and the exploited nations, which has led to a situation in which 95 per cent of all science and original technology is in the hands of a few, perhaps 10-15, countries. One of the chief purposes of Unesco's science programme is to redress this imbalance and to further the flowering of science and technology and their application to the welfare of mankind. Scientists share a common ethos

with emphasis on disinterest, universality, communalism and 'organized scepticism', and admire above all intellectual honesty. It was with this in mind that he looked forward to the debate in Commission III.

Introduction by the representative of the Director-General

(10) In his introduction, the representative of the Director-General described a number of features common to all Unesco science programmes. These were reductions in personnel costs; additional intellectual inputs for the preparation of the draft programme coming from scientific bodies (especially the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and its constituent bodies), as well as from the councils of the various intergovernmental programmes; evaluation activities built into the programmes; increased decentralization; reduction in the number of studies, publications and meetings in favour of training and consultancy activities; and more concentration achieved partly by reduction of the number of subprogrammes from 52 to 44.

(11) Major Programme IX has two Programmes: IX.1 and IX.2. The first emphasizes the popularization of science and technology and training, and has been restructured. The former Subprogrammes IX.1.1 and IX.1.2 have been merged into the new Subprogramme IX.1.1, entitled 'Effects of scientific and technological progress and participation of specialists and the public in its orientation', which also endeavours to monitor and to contribute to the increased role of women in scientific and technological progress. All training activities in this subprogramme are accorded first priority and given 40 per cent of the resources allocated to first priority activities.

(12) The second Subprogramme IX.1.2 entitled 'Science and technology extension work' replaces the former Subprogramme IX.1.3. Its main task will be the popularization of science and technology, especially in areas of rapid advance in knowledge and of great social impact. It will also contribute to the training of science communicators. Options on the future of the quarterly journal Impact of Science on Society have been offered within the subprogramme.

(13) Programme IX.2 on science and technology policies has had its subprogrammes reduced from four to three. The overall purpose of the programme is to assist Member States in the improvement of their capacities for the formulation, implementation and evaluation of their national science and technology policies within the framework of their national development plans.

(14) Two ministerial regional conferences in Africa (CASTAFRICA II)

and in the Arab States region (CASTARAB II) are proposed, the results of the recently held CASTALAC II conference in the Latin American and Caribbean region being reported in document 23 C/INF.9. The evaluation of the follow-up of the MINESPOL II conference, held in 1978 in the European and North American region, is reported in document 23 C/83. It is proposed to conduct an overall evaluation of science and technology ministerial conferences.

(15) Emphasis is put on training of science and technology policy-making and managerial personnel, under Subprogramme IX.2.3, which is based on the activities of regional networks, as described in document 23 C/81.

(16) Item 6.5 concerning 'the possibility, desirability and relevance of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology' is described in documents 23 C/30 and 23 C/INF/8.

Debate on Major Programme IX and Item 6.5: Possibility, desirability and relevance of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology

(17) Sixty-four delegates, and the observers of one intergovernmental organization the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), and one international non-governmental organization, the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU), participated in the debate. Most of the speakers generally supported Major Programme IX, recognizing improvements made in its coherence and relevance, and expressing concerns about the limited funds available compared with the aims set for it.

(18) A number of delegates stated that, in their view, this major programme was of lower priority than the two other major programmes in science. One delegate suggested that, in the future, certain activities under Major Programme IX might be combined with those of Major Programme VI.

Programme IX.1: Study and the improvement of the relationship between science, technology and society

(19) The majority of delegates who took the floor expressed support for, and made specific recommendations on, Programme IX.1. The general opinion was that the programme and its actions were well structured and consistent. However, one delegate expressed the view that it contained abstract studies of little practicality.

(20) While many delegates expressed satisfaction at the reduced number of meetings and the increased emphasis on training activities, several from the developing countries underlined the importance of seminars organized in

accordance with proposed actions under paragraph 09105 to study recent developments in the relationship between science, technology and society in various social contexts. Some of them expressed their country's wish to help organize these seminars.

(21) Some delegates noted the importance of Unesco's activities in the field of scientific and technological innovation. One of them proposed that the priority of the activities listed in paragraph 09105 (c), (d) and (e) be upgraded.

(22) The publication of monographs on trends in scientific research was supported by several delegates. One delegate requested that they should cover topics of special relevance to developing countries, such as informatics, biotechnologies and renewable energies.

(23) Some delegates stressed the social and ethical responsibilities of scientists, and the necessity for Unesco to participate in activities marking the International Year of Peace proposed by the United Nations. Several underlined the importance of co-operation with such groups as the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, the World Federation of Scientific Workers, the International Federation of Automatic Control, the European Federation of National Associations of Engineers, etc. In these delegates' view, the formulation of paragraph 09105(f) should be clarified with relation to activities to be undertaken. One delegate proposed the organization of an international working group to determine and evaluate this line of activity, while two other delegates were in favour of organizing a conference on the role of scientists and their responsibility for the maintenance of peace and nuclear disarmament.

(24) Two delegates declared themselves to be against the activity described in paragraph 09105(f), since in their view it was unlikely to yield any useful result. One delegate felt that the Organization was in danger of straying into areas more properly the concern of others.

(25) The need to promote the role of women in the assimilation and spread of technological innovation in different societies and cultural contexts was emphasized by most delegates. One delegate, however, emphasized that greater importance should be given to women in the development of science and technology. Many delegates supported the plans for the organization, in developing regions, of two training seminars for specialists - particularly women - in the social and human sciences, natural sciences and engineering, to examine in these regions the relationships between science, technology and society.

(26) Many delegates supported the training and advanced training of

specialists in the study of relationships between science, technology and society. One delegate proposed an increase in the number of IFIAS-COSTED fellowships to be awarded to researchers in developing countries for the furtherance of their interdisciplinary work on the relations between scientific and technological development and societal evolution.

(27) Subprogramme IX.1.2 met with the approval of many delegates, who underlined the great importance of Unesco activities in the field of popularization of science and technology in its various forms. Several delegates, however, were less in favour of these activities.

(28) A number of delegates emphasized the need for practical and action-oriented programmes in promoting national and regional projects in science and technology extension work, as well as the training and further training of specialized personnel. Some of these delegates expressed their support for the activities planned within option 2 in paragraph 09112.

(29) Some delegates stressed the importance of Unesco science prizes and supported the priority given to activities in paragraph 09113. One speaker felt that the administration costs of these activities, however, were disproportionately high, while a group of delegates found it difficult to judge the extent of the burden placed on the Secretariat in this connection and asked that an overview showing expenditure and man-hours consumed by made available. Another speaker noted that paying tribute to the achievements of scientists in developing countries would stimulate the promotion of science and technology and their popularization in these countries.

(30) Two options were offered to Member States concerning Unesco's publications in science popularization: option 1 - Continued publication of the quarterly journal Impact of Science on Society, together with improvement of its content, reduction of production costs and improved distribution; and option 2 - Its replacement by the publication in several languages of works concerning science and technology extension work. Most delegates expressed an opinion about the journal. The majority favoured the continued publication of Impact. These speakers also recommended that co-publication be investigated as a means to improving its distribution and reducing its costs. A few speakers favoured option 2 (paragraph 09115).

Programme IX.2: Science and technology policies; Item 6.5

(31) Most of the speakers who addressed Programme IX.2 specifically welcomed it as being balanced, well-structured, clear in its aims, and

responsive to the needs of their countries. Several speakers emphasized that the programme deserved high priority, expressing concern at its relatively modest rate of expansion, and at the limited funds allocated to it. One speaker underlined that Unesco was the most appropriate agency within the entire United Nations system for dealing with science and technology policy. Four speakers, on the other hand, had overall reservations about the programme, and considered that it deserved a lesser priority than the other science programmes of Unesco.

(32) A number of speakers called for some radical changes in the programme's design, a fundamental rethinking of its basic assumptions, a renewal of its concepts and for a greater concern for practical action, especially through increased decentralization. According to one speaker, not enough attention was being paid in the programme to the technology aspects of 'science and technology', for instance to the linkages with the production systems. Another speaker felt that the programme was too theoretical in its approach. One delegate stated that the programme did not take sufficient account of the realities of the policy-making process in the area of science and technology.

(33) The major activity under review within Subprogramme IX.2.1 (Analysis of national experiences and exchange of information in the field of science and technology policy) concerned regional ministerial conferences. Most of the speakers considered such conferences as providing an essential forum for important policy decisions on regional scientific and technological co-operation, as well as a unique opportunity for exchange of information at the highest policy level on achievements, difficulties and new trends, thereby playing an important role in the development of policy at national level. One delegate referred to important subregional co-operative programmes initiated by his country as a result of CASTASIA II.

(34) Speakers from the African region and the Arab region welcomed the planned CASTAFRICA II and CASTARAB II conferences. The delegates of Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal and the Sudan informed the Commission that their countries would be prepared to host CASTAFRICA II. The delegate of Sudan also indicated willingness to host CASTARAB II. The representative of ALECSO praised the active and fruitful co-operation with Unesco, in particular in the preparation of CASTARAB II.

(35) Several speakers expressed concern on the other hand about the follow-up to the recommendations of regional ministerial conferences, and about the adequacy of provisions made in the Unesco programme, at the planning stage, for that purpose.

(36) Several delegates stressed the need for defining more clearly the aims of the conferences, lest they remain an inconclusive forum of general discussion. According to a delegate from an African country, who welcomed the planned CASTAFRICA II conference, such had been the case of the first CASTAFRICA conference. One delegate also stressed the need to help the developing countries, particularly the African countries, to identify and protect their national scientific heritages.

(37) Several delegates from the European region commended the MINESPOL conferences, and expressed the hope that Unesco would go ahead with plans for holding the third conference of its kind in the 1988-1989 biennium. Other delegates from the region expressed doubts about these conferences, at least as they are currently designed, and favoured earmarking the related funds for more practical activities, such as training.

(38) A great number of speakers welcomed the planned evaluation of the regional ministerial conferences, and some of them considered that such an evaluation, if properly conducted, could provide an opportunity for rejuvenating the science and technology policy programme of Unesco. Some delegates offered the help of their countries in such an evaluation. Several speakers stressed the importance of the independent character of the evaluation, by outside examiners, in order to enhance its credibility.

(39) Analysis of national situations in the field of science and technology policy was referred to by a number of delegates. One speaker expressed general support for all activities in the programme. Another speaker stressed the importance for his country of the work on the status of scientific researchers. Two speakers commented favourably on the comparative study of financing systems for science and technology activities in Europe and Latin America, and one of them, recalling that Spanish was the major language of communication in Latin America, expressed the wish that the publication of the study in Spanish be upgraded from second to first priority.

(40) The project relating to the formulation of ethical and deontological guidelines on the direction and conduct of scientific work (paragraph 09207(e)) was commented on diversely, and in conjunction with the discussion, under item 6.5 of the agenda, on the possibility, timeliness and desirability of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology. On this question, contrasting views were expressed. Some delegates felt strongly that the adoption of a normative instrument, in the form of a general declaration, would help international co-operation and alleviate the ill-effects that misuse of science and technology

can have. Other delegates stated that a convention, binding on governments, would encourage them to recognize the importance of the role of science and technology in development and to consequently devote adequate resources to scientific and technological activities. Still, a majority of speakers were of the view that, for a number of reasons, the adoption of such a normative instrument was premature, or not feasible, or even not desirable. The point was made that ethical issues in science and technology were still the subject of national debate, and that it would take some time before countries themselves agree on their own national norms. Adherence to an international one appeared therefore impossible at present because of the controversial nature of the subject. Others argued that the normative control of research, on the ground of ethics, represented a misconception of the nature of research (as an intellectual endeavour, which should not be ethically qualified), and that the issue was not about research, but about its applications.

(41) Several of the delegates, who considered that the adoption of a normative instrument was premature or undesirable, nevertheless recognized the importance for Unesco to encourage and stimulate the debate on ethical issues in science and technology, and expressed their agreement with the recommendation of the Executive Board contained in document 23 C/30. According to three delegates, however, the sums earmarked for this activity could be more profitably used for other programmes.

(42) The development of national data bases for science and technology policies was welcomed by several speakers, who stressed that information about their scientific and technical resources and potential was a prerequisite for developing their science and technology capacity. Unesco was commended for the services it renders in this field and the wish was expressed that this programme would be further strengthened and expanded. Four speakers, on the other hand, had doubts about the usefulness of the programme, and considered that the resources earmarked for it should be transferred to activities of a higher priority. A number of speakers recalled their well-known position against the continuation of work on SPINES, while others viewed the thesaurus as a useful instrument, and welcomed its publication in different linguistic versions.

(43) A great majority of speakers expressed general support for Subprogramme IX.2.2 (Formulation of science and technology policies at national, regional and world levels). One delegate was of the view that the title should more appropriately reflect the content of the subprogramme by having the word 'world' removed from it. Several speakers expressed their support for consultant services activities, and two

delegates further pointed to the need to resort so far as possible to local experts or at any rate experts from the region concerned.

(44) Technical co-operation with Member States and international organizations was also largely supported. The delegates from countries participating in the ICSOPRU project (International Comparative Study on the Organization and Performance of Research Units) welcomed the continued effort devoted by Unesco to the activity. The pilot project on science and technology for the development of rural areas in the Andean region was welcomed by several speakers from Latin America, who noted that it constituted an activity to which the CASTALAC II conference had given the highest priority. They expressed concern about the priority status of this activity and presented a draft resolution to upgrade it. Three speakers commended Unesco for its efforts at co-ordinating its programme with the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

(45) A delegate from the Caribbean region, speaking on behalf of the group of English and Dutch-speaking island countries expressed concern about the level of resources earmarked in the programme for that group of countries, as well as possibilities for continued assistance through the posting of a science and technology adviser in this subregion, as recommended by the CASTALAC II conference.

(46) Some delegates referred in their interventions to the methodological work of Unesco and stressed the importance of this part of the programme, which should provide the necessary intellectual basis to its operations, especially consultancy services and science and technology planning and management training.

(47) A majority of speakers referred to Subprogramme IX.2.3 (Training of the skilled personnel needed for the planning and management of scientific and technological development) and expressed unanimous support for it. In particular, they welcomed its need-oriented and decentralized approach, based on the development of regional networks, with some measure of central co-ordination and intellectual support, as described in document 23 C/81.

(48) A number of speakers stressed that scientific work is best managed by scientists themselves and that the training courses should correspondingly aim at training scientists in managerial skills, resorting so far as possible to existing institutions. One delegate advised that care should be exercised in reducing costs of the management of the international programme to a minimum, especially through staff reduction.

(49) One speaker suggested that an international research centre on science and technology policy studies should be

established, and one delegate invited Unesco to establish a centre for training science managers in his country. The launching of the Asian regional network for training and research in science and technology policy management, launched at the March 1985 Beijing meeting, was welcomed by several speakers from the region. Likewise, speakers from Latin America and the Caribbean welcomed the planned establishment of a similar network in the region in the coming biennium. Speakers from a number of countries of the African continent called for assistance from Unesco in developing national training and research institutions in this field. Several speakers expressed concern at the second priority status of a number of activities, and requested that they be upgraded to first priority.

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(50) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General expressed the gratitude of the Secretariat for the constructive manner in which Major Programme IX had been examined by the Commission. He noted that all speakers had agreed on the importance of the theme of the interaction between science, technology and society. However, several delegates felt that in circumstances of reduced resources, priority must be given to other parts of the science programme. Many African speakers, referring to the dramatic conditions in Africa, had stated their interest in the elucidation of the interaction between scientific and technological development and social change in the context of different cultural environments.

(51) Both subprogrammes under Programme IX.1 were generally well received. Particular support had been expressed for activities concerning the popularization of science and technology results.

(52) Somewhat divergent opinions had been expressed with respect to paragraph 09105 (f) on the role of scientists in the application of their work for human welfare. Similar debates are going on within many scientific communities. In order to take into account the various views, the proposed activities are to be undertaken in partnership with the relevant scientific associations.

(53) There had been overall support for the programme on the role of women in science and technology.

(54) As far as the administration of the four science prizes were concerned, funds went to meet the cost of contracts with jury members, the travel expenses or prize-award ceremony, the certificate arrangements, as well as communications and internal reproduction supplies. Three of the prizes are funded by donors.

(55) With regard to the continu-

ation of the publication Impact, the majority of the speakers had been in favour of option 1, as recommended by the Executive Board, while also emphasizing the importance of popularization activities. Acceptance of option 1 in paragraph 09114 implies also adoption of option 1 in paragraph 09112 for budgetary reasons. In addition to discussions on possible co-publication of Impact, new contracts were being signed for the publication of editions in Arabic and Spanish.

(56) Programme IX.2 in its broad outline, content and structure, and in its priorities, had been widely accepted, whilst it was recognized that improvements could be made to make it more action-oriented, and closer to local needs and realities. In a more general way, the programme would have to adapt to evolving conditions, and the Secretariat was quite open to the idea of rethinking its basic conception, whilst at the same time retaining its most attractive features. Advice of specialists from Member States in this task would be welcome.

(57) A majority of speakers had considered regional ministerial conferences of great importance and the Director-General wished to thank the delegates who had offered to host CASTAFRICA II and CASTARAB II in their countries. Concerning the MINESPOL III conference envisaged for 1988-1989, the Secretariat noted the various opinions expressed and would spare no effort in the coming two years in trying to reconcile these differing views.

(58) The proposed evaluation of the results of Unesco ministerial conferences in science and technology would be carried out in an independent way by outside examiners.

(59) On the question of training, which had called for some measure of innovation in the very conception of the science and technology policies programme, the Secretariat would go ahead as actively as possible, but would have to exercise some flexibility in developing regional networks, learning from experience and adapting to local regional conditions.

(60) Finally, on the form and feasibility of a normative instrument for science and technology, contrasting views had been expressed; in the circumstances, some compromise would be sought, acceptable to all. In this context, the Secretariat would consider making a comprehensive analysis of the declarations adopted by regional ministerial conferences, when the current cycle has ended.

(61) On the four major issues outlined above, as well as on all the other questions, the Secretariat would make every effort, in implementing the programme, to take into account the suggestions made and guidance offered by the Commission.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 15 - MAJOR PROGRAMME X:
THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE RESOURCES

(62) Commission III devoted its sixth (in part), seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and (in part) twelfth meetings to consideration of discussion unit 15, which covered:

Programme X.1: The earth's crust and its mineral and energy resources;

Programme X.2: Natural hazards;

Programme X.3: Water resources;

Programme X.4: The ocean and its resources;

Programme X.5: Management of coastal and island regions;

Programme X.6: Land-use planning and terrestrial resources;

Programme X.7: Urban systems and urbanization;

Programme X.8: The natural heritage;

Programme X.9: Environmental

education and information.

(63) The Commission considered these programmes in relation to corresponding sections of document 23 C/5 (paragraphs 10101 to 10923) and the proposed resolution (paragraph 10002) relating to Major Programme X, along with documents 23 C/77, 23 C/78, 23 C/79, 23 C/80, 23 C/86, 23 C/INF/22 and 23 C/DRs.2, 8, 8 Rev., 9, 9 Rev., 12, 39, 92, 97, 102, 103, 104, 111, 112, 113, 120, 121, 135, 143, 143 Annex, 143 Add., 182, 185, 204, 258, 261, 262, 271, 275, 276, 282 and 286.

Introduction by the representative of the Director-General

(64) In introducing discussion unit 15, the representative of the Director-General described the structure and function of Major Programme X, which includes the intergovernmental and international programmes: the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), the International Hydrological Programme (IHP), the Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB) and the programmes of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). The constituent programmes are implemented in a co-ordinated way, with an interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach.

(65) This major programme has received the second highest percentage increase in funding and the resources allocated to first priority activities are equivalent to 75.9 per cent of the total. This reflects the high priority accorded to Major Programme X by Member States.

(66) Programme X.1 is implemented with the professional bodies of earth scientists, in particular the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). The number of its sub-programmes has been reduced to four. Evaluation in Programme X.1 is a continuous activity, particularly for IGCP

projects. A general independent evaluation of the IGCP will be carried out in the coming biennium.

(67) The core of Programme X.2 is concerned with earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and landslides, but there are also activities related to floods, droughts, tsunamis and cyclones, carried out in conjunction with the relevant intergovernmental programmes.

(68) Training activities and advisory services make up major parts of this programme. Specific regional projects on earthquake risk mitigation will be supported, in particular in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and the Arab States. An evaluation of the natural hazards programme is being undertaken in co-operation with the international scientific unions concerned.

(69) The International Hydrological Programme is the main instrument for action under Programme X.3. Its activities will follow the plan of the third phase of the IHP (1984-1989), which includes 61 international projects grouped under 18 themes. Particular attention is devoted to subjects such as the interaction between climatic variations and water resources; the study of particular hydrological regimes in arid zones, humid tropical regions, coastal areas and small islands, flatlands and mountainous regions; the development of a system of indicators and indices based on hydrological, environmental and socio-economic criteria to be used for assessing the impact of water projects; the refinement of methodologies for the assessment, planning and management of water resources; the development of scientific and technical information systems in the field of water resources.

(70) The participation of Member States plays a decisive role in the success of the programme. One hundred-and-forty Member States have established National Committees, or at least national focal points for the IHP. Three Major Regional Projects on Water Resources Management (in the rural areas of Africa, the Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean) are implemented.

(71) Great emphasis is placed on education and training. Unesco-sponsored postgraduate courses in hydrology and water resources now number 30 and train about 400 specialists per annum. Ad hoc regional courses are organized in developing countries for the training of specialized personnel, of technicians, and of their instructors. The IHP Council at its 1986 session will evaluate the whole system of training courses to increase its efficiency.

(72) Programme X.4 includes the activities in marine science implemented directly by Unesco, or by its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, and is of particular significance in this period of rapid evolution in international ocean affairs.

(73) The marine science programme has three related components: research, training and infrastructure building. Research is conducted through co-operation with the scientific unions and then adapted to regional settings.

(74) The IOC programme includes components on ocean science, ocean services and training, education and mutual assistance. An important project deals with the influence of oceans on the world's climate. It is implemented with the Scientific Committee on Ocean Research of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU).

(75) Other activities include the World Ocean Circulation Experiment, the study of the tropical oceans and global atmosphere, regional monitoring systems for the health of the oceans (in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the gathering, storage and dissemination of data. The Training, Education and Mutual Assistance programme is of especial interest to developing countries for the strengthening of their infrastructures.

(76) Another component of Programme X.4 concerns the strengthening of intergovernmental oceanographic co-operation and formulation of policies.

(77) Programme X.5 is interdisciplinary and intersectoral and deals with the interface between marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Emphasis is laid on improving the understanding of coastal marine systems and their interactions with offshore waters and the land. Within the MAB programme, the aim is to seek a scientific basis for reconciling conflicts in land use and resource demand in these zones.

(78) Programme X.6 forms the heart of the MAB programme. A major innovation concerns a Scientific Advisory Panel set up with ICSU for the evaluation, development and renewal of the programme.

(79) Whilst linking with programmes on global change, MAB will continue to focus on integrated pilot projects of applied research, training and demonstration in various ecological regions of the world.

(80) Comparative studies will be conducted in such fields as the relations between soil biological processes and tropical soil fertility.

(81) Studies on urban areas as ecological systems are at the core of Programme X.7. New integrated ecological projects on urban areas of various sizes and complexities will be implemented.

(82) Training of specialists and promotion of public participation in the improvement of the urban environment,

are other components. The Social and Human Sciences Sector is responsible for training of architects, planners and managers of urban and rural settlements and for the preparation of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless in 1987.

(83) Programme X.8 deals with the biosphere reserve network and the implementation of the Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. A new major instrument is the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves.

(84) Programme X.9 adapts scientific information on the environment to the needs of education and public awareness in different ecological and socio-cultural contexts, and serves general environmental education.

Statements by the Chairmen of the Intergovernmental Science Programmes

(85) The Chairman of the Board of the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP), Mr J.F. Lovering, presented the report on the progress made in 1984-1985 (document 23 C/77). He recalled the basic reason for establishing the IGCP as a joint programme of Unesco and the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). The Programme was started some 13 years ago on the occasion of the seventeenth session of the General Conference. The IGCP reflects the need for international co-operation in geological sciences since the rocks of the earth's crust do not respect national boundaries.

(86) The IGCP has become an effective body in which about 4,000 scientists from 110 countries participate now in 47 scientific projects. Unesco provides the 'seed-money' to attract and generate support from national and international sources.

(87) During the past few years, the emphasis of IGCP research has shifted continually to fields of particular importance to developing countries.

(88) Mr Lovering urged the Commission to recognize the fact that Unesco's support of IGCP needs to be doubled to fulfil effectively its purpose as seed-money. He stressed that IGCP is ably monitored and supervised through its Board and Scientific Committee, which benefit from the services rendered by the IGCP Secretariat at Unesco.

(89) The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council of IHP, Mr H. Zebidi, recalled the objective of the programme of international co-operation in the field of water resources launched by Unesco in 1965, initially under the title International Hydrological Decade (1965-1974) and since 1975 as the International Hydrological Programme. Those objectives were to help Member States to a better knowledge of their water

resources, to define the role of those resources in economic and social development, to promote the rational exploitation of water resources, and to train the scientists and technicians they needed to cope with their water problems.

(90) Reviewing the evolving pattern of IHP activities, he stressed that the third phase of IHP (1984-1989) was distinguished by greater attention to the practical aspects of water resources management; the aim was to make use of scientific knowledge to solve the problems involved in the development and conservation of water resources, particularly in the developing countries, and to foster an integrated and interdisciplinary approach to the management of water resources. This was reflected in the title that had been given to IHP-III: 'Hydrology and the scientific bases for the rational management of water resources for economic and social development'. The plan for IHP-III identified 18 themes. Several of these were aimed at developing new scientific approaches, while others were intended to produce syntheses of current knowledge with a view to improving its practical application. One theme, for example, was devoted to the preparation of a study on the aspects of water resources management peculiar to the various regions of the world. The programme paid particular attention to activities intended to stimulate awareness among decision-makers and the general public with regard to water problems. IHP-III would also continue the study and improvement of methods to promote the more effective transfer of knowledge and technology.

(91) Recalling that IHP-III was still giving priority to projects relating to education and training, he indicated that the number of international postgraduate courses organized under IHP auspices had totalled 30 in 1984 and that particular attention was being devoted to the training of technicians.

(92) He stressed that the activities of IHP had developed with the assistance of the National Committees, several of which had assumed responsibility for the implementation of international projects included in the plan, and recalled the importance of the relations of co-operation between IHP and the agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations.

(93) The Intergovernmental Council of IHP had noted with satisfaction the interest taken by most Member States in IHP. That interest had been demonstrated, in particular, through Unesco's Executive Board, especially in the recommendations it had adopted at its 121st session.

(94) He concluded by expressing the hope that the forthcoming decisions of the General Conference would be along the same lines.

(95) In addressing the Commission, the Chairman of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Intergovernmental Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB), Mr Gonzalo Halffter, underlined the important role of MAB in promoting international scientific co-operation and in harnessing research within the natural and social sciences to practical problems connected with resource management and land use planning. He provided the Commission with an account of the work of the most recent session of the MAB Council and an overview of its recommendations for the further development of the Programme.

(96) He noted the priority accorded by the MAB Council to continued development of the networks of integrated pilot projects in various ecological regions of the world as well as to the carrying out of comparative studies in certain well-defined fields. Work on urban systems continued to be of priority within the MAB programme. He underlined the crucial role of training as an essential part of MAB to increase endogenous research capabilities in developing countries.

(97) Mr Halffter mentioned the resolve of the MAB Council to evaluate past results as a basis for developing future strategies; in this respect it had set up two advisory panels. The first of these is a General Scientific Advisory Panel, set up to provide general scientific counsel for the assessment and further development and renewal of the MAB programme. The second panel was set up to advise on the implementation of the Biosphere Reserve Action Plan adopted by the Council at its eighth session. Mr Halffter provided a short account of the principal conclusions of the first meetings of the two panels which had been held in August and September. In closing, Mr Halffter drew attention to the essential characteristics of the MAB programme and expressed dismay at the cut-back in staff and at the prospect of a cut-back in the funds allocated by Unesco to the Programme; those funds were indispensable to the participation of developing countries in, and to the overall servicing of, a Programme of capital importance which emphasizes an ecological approach to problem-solving and which puts man at the centre of its concerns.

(98) The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), Mr I. Ronquillo, in his address, recalled that since the twenty-second session of the General Conference, the IOC had marked a particularly important event in its history: its 25th anniversary. This period had been for IOC a great experiment in human endeavour, governed by one important principle - that of co-operation among the community of nations and their scientists.

(99) Because of its special status as an intergovernmental body, acting as

a joint specialized co-ordination mechanism in the United Nations system, the IOC offers a unique opportunity to Unesco to maintain its leading position in international marine scientific affairs. He also recalled that on a number of occasions the IOC Assembly and its Executive Council had emphasized the need to seize the historic opportunity being offered by the emergence of a new ocean regime, which was required by the increasing uses of the ocean, and which had led to the signature, by a vast majority of Member States, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

(100) He then referred to the substantial gap between the developed and developing countries in the field of marine scientific research and technology, identified by the special UNCLOS Resolution. To close this gap, and to build up the partnership between developed and developing Member States, the IOC had put forward a Comprehensive Plan for a Major Programme of Assistance to Enhance the Marine Science Capabilities of Developing Countries, which was endorsed by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, and which IOC was now actively beginning to implement, using Unesco's regular budget as well as extra-budgetary sources of funding.

(101) He recognized the gravity of the situation and the difficult choices which have had to be made by the Director-General and the Executive Board of Unesco, and now by the General Conference itself, regarding the programme of work and budget of the Organization. If Unesco and the IOC do not respond to these great and fundamental needs, if they do not take full advantage of the present opportunities, some of them may well be lost. Some Member States will see their national goals in marine affairs set back yet once again. Every setback for one is a setback for all.

(102) The amendments to the C/5 document proposed by the Executive Board, as well as by a number of Member States through draft resolutions, are a positive step. However, the situation remains critical, since the present first priority budget represents only 70 per cent of the funding required for implementation of the IOC programme. In fact, should the total budget approved for the Commission amount to \$1,817,000, the IOC would return to about the funding level of the C/5 for the biennium 1981-1983. This, coupled with the possible freezing of posts, representing for IOC up to 25 per cent of the total staff funding provided by Unesco, risks having a severe negative impact on the work of the Commission and, consequently, on the services rendered to Member States and other United Nations organizations. In meeting that commitment, however, the paucity of our knowledge of the oceans, and our ability to predict its effects on every aspect of our daily lives, has been revealed.

Unesco and the IOC must take up that greater and more rewarding commitment now, even under the present difficult circumstances.

Debate on Major Programme X

(103) Eighty delegates, the representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the representative of the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) and the representative of the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) took part in the ensuing debate.

(104) Without exception, the speakers considered Major Programme X to be one of the most important and successful programmes of the Organization. Several considered that this major programme is of special relevance to the developing countries, contributing to a sound development of their economies and to reducing the gap between developing and developed countries. At the same time, it was pointed out by most delegates that Major Programme X is a programme of global interest, relating to the life of present and future generations and supported by all Member States, both developed and developing. Some speakers mentioned that by its worldwide activities and by the international mechanisms which it uses, Major Programme X constitutes an important factor for the strengthening of mutual understanding and peaceful co-operation.

(105) Almost all speakers referred to the particular role played in Major Programme X by the main international scientific programmes - IGCP, IHP, MAB and the programmes of IOC - whose reputation is well established and which enjoy the unanimous support of Member States. Referring to the positive experience of the IHP, one delegate recommended improved planning of these programmes in the short- and medium-term perspectives alike. Another delegate welcomed the proposals made by the Director-General to evaluate and monitor the programmes to ensure that they meet their objectives.

(106) In view of the wide objectives of Major Programme X and of their importance, a number of delegates felt that more financial resources were needed. In this context, many delegates expressed strong support for the recommendations of the Executive Board concerning the upgrading of certain activities under Major Programme X. One delegate called for the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources to support the implementation of the programme.

(107) One delegate stated that the staff costs in Major Programme X represented too high a proportion of the total amount of funds available and considered a further reduction would allow the funding of more programme activities.

(108) One delegate expressed the

view that the Southern Hemisphere and the Pacific were less well served by the programmes of Major Programme X, and requested that a better regional balance be sought. She welcomed all efforts being made to decentralize activities to the Unesco Regional Offices in Bangkok, Jakarta and Apia.

(109) Most delegates stressed the importance of training activities within the whole major programme and some of them requested that the portion of budgetary resources allocated for these activities be augmented. One delegate suggested that evaluation exercises be undertaken to ascertain that the many Unesco-sponsored courses are really effective. He recommended the reduction of the number of seminars and short-term courses in favour of courses of longer duration, including M.Sc. and Ph.D programmes. The delegate referred to the significant efforts made by his country towards close co-operation with a number of developing countries, in order to expand training programmes in science. His country supplies 10 per cent of the total remote-sensing education and training available worldwide to participants from developing countries.

(110) Several speakers pointed out that, by its nature, Major Programme X can only be implemented in close co-operation with a number of agencies in the United Nations system and with many non-governmental organizations concerned with the problems of natural resources and the environment. One delegate indicated that in these times of limited resources, rigorous attention needs to be given to the elimination of unnecessary overlap and duplication with other agencies. The representative of WMO mentioned that his Organization had a long-standing record of fruitful co-operation with the different programmes of Unesco in the field of environmental sciences, and expressed satisfaction with the co-ordination of the relevant programmes of Unesco and WMO.

(111) Many delegates underlined the links between the various programmes which constitute Major Programme X and pointed out their necessary complementarity. Some of them referred to and supported subparagraph 8 (b) of the proposed resolution contained in paragraph 10002 of 23 C/5, which invites the Director-General to ensure that '...the activities provided for under the nine programmes of Major Programme X are planned and carried out in a co-ordinated way in order to make the best possible use of their conceptual and operational complementarity...'.
Programme X.1: Earth's crust and its mineral and energy resources

(112) Programme X.1 was supported by many speakers. One of them expressed his concern at the decreased funding of the programme.

(113) Delegates agreed that high priority should be given to this programme and in particular to Subprogramme X.1.1 (Spatio-temporal geological correlation), dealing with the International Geological Correlation Programme (IGCP). Some speakers welcomed the upgrading of activities recommended by the Executive Board. Several delegates requested the upgrading of paragraph 10106 (b), as proposed in draft resolution 23 C/DR.143.

(114) Several delegates were in favour of the extension of the IGCP to new areas and new objectives. Some of them spoke of the project proposals related to their regions or already prepared by their IGCP Committees. One delegate mentioned possible studies of the Precambrian formation in his country, whilst another speaker proposed a new IGCP project entitled 'East Mediterranean ophiolite belts'.

(115) Two delegates asked for support for geological activities (geological mapping and mineral prospecting) in their countries within the framework of the IGCP.

(116) Several speakers stressed the need to stimulate the participation of developing countries in the programme, to strengthen the training component, and to facilitate the participation of women scientists.

(117) Three speakers emphasized the importance of regional co-operation within the IGCP; one delegate requested that funding for regional meetings be increased.

(118) One speaker pointed out that more attention should be paid to energy resources.

(119) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.262 on joint meetings of the IGCP Board and Scientific Committee, and draft resolution 23 C/DR.112 on the amalgamation of the IGCP Board and its Scientific Committee into a single board responsible for Programme X.1 were supported by two speakers, while others were in favour of maintaining the present structure of the IGCP evaluation and governing bodies.

(120) One delegate mentioned that the evaluation procedure of the IGCP may serve as a model not only for the totality of Programme X.1, but also for other programmes. Three speakers expressed their support for the independent evaluation of the IGCP, as proposed in document 23 C/5.

(121) Subprogramme X.1.2 (Geology for economic development) was positively commented on by many delegates. Several regretted its limitation to Africa and recommended its extension to other regions and continents. Two speakers referred favourably to the introduction of co-operation between African and Latin American geoscientists. Other delegates proposed that the activities of the subprogramme be extended to their countries and three speakers referred to activities already implemented in the

framework of the subprogramme.

(122) Subprogramme X.1.3 (Inter-disciplinary research on the earth's crust and dissemination of its findings and of data relating to the earth sciences) attracted the attention of several speakers.

(123) Several countries expressed their interest in the studies on the lithosphere and some of them supported draft resolution 23 C/DR.39 on the establishment of seismological research on deep structures of the European lithosphere in the Balkan/Tyrrhenian region. An intensification of studies on mineral deposits and relation of deep structures to epidermic layers was proposed by one delegate.

(124) Some speakers were in favour of increased collaboration with the Inter-union Commission of the Lithosphere and two delegates asked for increased Unesco financial participation in the Commission's activities.

(125) Several delegates stressed the importance of geological maps, which - they pointed out - represent a most efficient way of disseminating geological data. Two delegates suggested that funding for map production should be increased, and one urged more extra-budgetary support and greater participation of Member States. One delegate proposed that his country be involved in this activity. More professional production and distribution of geological maps was proposed by another speaker.

(126) A number of delegates referred to remote sensing and one asked that it be given first priority. Several speakers stressed the importance of remote sensing and mineral resources modelling for natural resources management and emphasized the need for training specialists in this field. One delegate supported the use of remote sensing techniques for geological research in Zaire.

(127) Several delegates asked for attention to be paid to land-use planning; one delegate considered land use planning and the preparation of thematic maps as high priorities for Latin America. Another proposed that there be linkage with regard to the problems of environment and land-use planning executed under Programmes X.1, X.2, X.3 and X.6.

(128) One speaker felt a lack of homogeneity in this subprogramme, which is composed of three activities having little in common.

(129) Subprogramme X.1.4 'Training of specialized personnel' was favourably commented on by several speakers. Some of them considered training as one of the most important activities in the framework of the programme and asked for increased funding. One country stressed the importance of co-ordinating research and training and of including women in training courses, whilst another speaker expressed the wish that the funds be

increased for training at the expense of meetings. The topics and level of courses should be carefully reviewed and adapted to conditions in different countries.

(130) One speaker felt that priority should be given to long-term training activities including MSc and Ph.D programmes. One delegate supported explicitly the training courses on Quaternary geology to be held in Egypt and Greece.

Programme X.2: Natural hazards

(131) A large majority of delegates who took the floor expressed their support for Programme X.2. Two speakers stated that this programme should receive highest priority.

(132) Delegates from disaster-prone areas stressed the importance of appropriate risk-mitigation measures. A few speakers, referring to the disastrous natural phenomena that their countries had recently experienced, requested assistance in the studies they are undertaking.

(133) One speaker mentioned that specialists in his earthquake-stricken area are collecting data to be used for the reconstruction phase. Another referred to a volcanic eruption taking place in his country. Two delegates asked that particular attention be paid to the protection against natural hazards of historical cities and monuments in their countries.

(134) Categories of hazards which should be of concern to Programme X.2 prompted several statements. Whilst several speakers stressed that emphasis should be given to the study of earthquake hazards, others believed that activities should be significantly extended to cover hazards of hydro-meteorological origin such as drought, floods and typhoons, which, in their opinion, claim the highest losses. Three delegates spoke of lightning and forest fires, another mentioned man-induced disasters. Several countries supported draft resolution 23 C/DR.103 which called for the inclusion of natural hazards of hydrometeorological origins.

(135) A number of delegates asked for action against desertification and erosion and that special funds be sought for this purpose.

(136) One speaker requested that studies on volcanic hazards receive more attention and regretted that activities on research and training in volcanology are not proposed under first priority. Another speaker felt that more emphasis should be placed on the study of landslides.

(137) A number of delegates spoke again the proposed reduction of funds for Programme X.2. Some of them regretted the 12 per cent decrease in the budget, the more so because of the need to extend its scope.

(138) Contrasting views were expressed on the balance between Sub-programmes X.2.1 and X.2.2. Whilst a number of speakers stressed the need for further studies related to assessment and prediction, some felt that emphasis should be given to risk mitigation and prevention. One delegate advocated concentration of activities; another called for more attention to public awareness with regard to natural hazards.

(139) The implementation of regional projects prompted a number of statements. Delegates from the Arab region supported the Programme on Assessment and Mitigation of Earthquake Risks in the Arab Region (PAMERAR). Representatives from four Balkan countries praised the positive results of the earthquake risk reduction project in the Balkans. One asked that increased UNDP funds be sought. Another called for support for the recently established Project Co-ordinating Committee. One delegate expressed his hope that the Alpine Himalayan Seismological project will be accelerated.

(140) A number of delegates from Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa asked for the introduction in their areas of projects similar to those in the Balkan and Arab regions. One delegate requested that a long-term project to combat drought in Africa be adopted.

(141) A number of speakers commended the activities aimed at collecting and disseminating data on natural hazards. One declared that his country is willing to provide input to this activity and to receive data so collected.

(142) A few speakers in particular referred to, and supported, the activities related to the unification of observation networks. Some delegates emphasized the need for the design of hazard-resistant constructions. Two specifically mentioned a seismic design.

(143) Two delegates confirmed their countries' willingness to host an international experimental site for research on earthquake prediction. Some called for support for seismological and tectonic research of the lithosphere in the Balkan/Tyrrhenean region which, according to their opinion, speeds prediction capabilities. One speaker asked for more active participation in the international decade on earthquake risk reduction.

(144) Several speakers dwelt on the need for increased training of specialists. The representative of the Arab League Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ALECSO) proposed its co-operation in the organization of scientific meetings and training programmes on the study of seismic activities.

(145) Two delegates referred to international workshops which are to be organized in their countries on earthquakes and on erosion processes.

(146) Some speakers voiced agreement with activities aimed at developing observation networks and specialized regional institutes. Some regretted that such activities did not cover their region.

(147) Special assistance from the international community was requested for the protection of Cuzco, threatened by floods and landslides.

Programme X.3: Water resources

(148) Almost all speakers specifically referred to, and strongly supported Programme X.3 and more particularly the International Hydrological Programme. Many delegates justified this support by the vital role which water resources play in the economic and social development of their countries. Several delegates indicated that they accord the highest priority to Programme X.3.

(149) Many speakers welcomed the recommendations of the Executive Board to upgrade a number of activities pertaining to Programme X.3 to first priority. Some delegates considered that the funding of these programmes still remains insufficient. One delegate, however, considered that the upgradings decided by the Executive Board could have created a certain imbalance in favour of this programme and that, in future, a reduction in the number of conferences and seminars might be envisaged. Appreciating that the resources allocated to Programme X.3 are modest in relation to the magnitude of the tasks, two delegates pointed out the need for Member States to contribute to the implementation of the programme. One delegate recalled that his country had supported the execution of several IHP projects and intended to continue this support.

(150) Many speakers considered that the programme was well conceived and structured and expressed support for the various themes of IHP-III. One delegate referred to the exemplary planning of activities under the IHP. Another praised the work of the Secretariat in the implementation of IHP-III, but noted some delays in the execution of certain projects. Several delegates, as well as the representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), welcomed the third International Conference on Hydrology and the Scientific Bases which Unesco and WMO plan to convene in March 1987. They considered that this conference provides an opportunity for the evaluation and planning of the respective programmes of Unesco and WMO in water resources and also for reviewing the progress achieved in the implementation of the Mar del Plata Action Plan, ten years after its adoption by the United Nations Water Conference.

(151) Particular interest was expressed by a number of delegates in

theme 4 of IHP-III dealing with the hydrology of particular regions and land areas; thus, several delegates were interested in the studies regarding arid and semi-arid regions, one delegate in the hydrology of islands, two delegates in the study of flatlands. Three delegates requested that more attention be given to the hydrology and related water problems of lakes.

(152) Several delegates stressed the importance of IHP themes related to the influence of man on the hydrological cycle and the environmental impact of water projects. Two delegates referred in particular to water quality aspects. One delegate pointed out that some of these aspects were of concern to the MAB Programme. In this respect several speakers called for closer co-operation between MAB and IHP; one of them pointed out that such co-operation should be extended to the national level.

(153) IHP themes dealing with methodologies for the assessment of water resources and for the integrated planning and management of these resources were also recognized as particularly important by some speakers.

(154) One delegate mentioned the special interest of his country in theme 17 of IHP with the development of scientific and technical information systems in water resources.

(155) Several delegates, in particular of countries in the Latin American and the Caribbean region, expressed interest in projects dealing with hydrogeological mapping. One delegate, recalling the support given by his country to the publication of the Hydrogeological Map of Europe, expressed the hope that Unesco will continue to contribute to this project.

(156) Many speakers expressed strong support for regional co-operation activities foreseen under Subprogramme X.3.2. Two delegates requested the maintenance of the post of subregional hydrologist for the Caribbean in order to foster the water programmes in that region. One delegate considered that the IHP intergovernmental Council should play a more active role in the planning of regional activities.

(157) A number of delegates stressed the importance of the three Major Regional Projects in Water Resources. Several delegates, referring to draft resolution 23 C/DR.12, requested the launching of a similar Major Regional Project for Asia and the Pacific.

(158) Two delegates indicated the need for wider dissemination of Unesco's publications in water resources, in particular by publishing more language versions, and one of them offered to assist the Secretariat in this task.

(159) Many delegates stressed the importance of training activities. Satisfaction was expressed at the increase in the number of postgraduate courses sponsored by Unesco, but several

delegates considered that the funds available for these valuable activities were insufficient. Several delegates indicated their intention to maintain the courses functioning in their countries. Two other countries proposed to establish new Unesco-sponsored post-graduate courses.

(160) One delegate mentioned the importance of wide participation by specialized non-governmental organizations in the activities of the IHP, which permits the association of the scientific community with the implementation of this programme. He referred, in particular, to the co-operation with the International Association of Hydrological Sciences.

(161) The representative of WMO expressed full satisfaction with the fruitful co-operation between Unesco and WMO and the effective co-ordination of their programmes in the field of water resources.

Programme X.4: The ocean and its Resources

(162) There was virtually unanimous support for Programme X.4 (The ocean and its resources), which is a joint programme of Unesco and of its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). A large number of delegates made particular reference to IOC and their strong support for it.

(163) Despite some reservations about the internal organization of Programme X.4, the delegates as a whole found it to be valuable but underfunded. Most delegates expressed the desire of their countries to participate in Programme X.4 in a large range of activities. Various proposals were presented, both through draft resolutions and oral recommendations, to upgrade activities to first priority.

(164) Many delegates stressed the unique role of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission as an intergovernmental body within Unesco, as well as its responsibilities as a co-ordinating mechanism for marine scientific programmes within the United Nations system. Other delegates noted that many IOC programmes were implemented jointly with other United Nations bodies and that this not only contributed to a more intensive coverage of related activities but ensured desired complementarity and co-ordination with the United Nations system, as recommended by the Executive Board and General Conference of Unesco. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) emphasized the close collaboration maintained with Unesco and the IOC regarding climatic studies and the promotion and development of the joint IOC/WMO Integrated Global Ocean Services System (IGOSS).

(165) Several delegates, in referring to the increased demands on

Member States resulting from an accelerated use of the oceans and their resources and the related need for management, as well as to the opportunities offered by a new ocean regime, stressed the necessity of ensuring that Unesco and the IOC be given the required means to fulfil their responsibilities, especially in regard to providing information, advice and assistance to developing countries. A number of delegates felt that, despite the difficult situation confronting Unesco, a special effort should be made to increase the resources of IOC at this historic moment in its development, its 25th anniversary. In this connection, one delegate recommended that a special reference to that effect be included in the Report of Commission III, together with his congratulations to Unesco on such an important contribution to the promotion of international co-operation in marine sciences, and with the request that strong support continue to be provided to the IOC.

(166) Several delegates expressed concern at the staff reduction in the Secretariat of the IOC and recommended their re-establishment. Two delegates recommended that Member States make a more binding commitment to the activities of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.

(167) A large number of delegates supported the planned activities of IOC, several drawing attention to the powerful methodology that had been followed in developing the draft of document 23 C/5 through the Commission's technical and regional subsidiary bodies, and, more recently, at the 13th session of the IOC Assembly. Some delegates noted that there was a need to ensure greater harmonization between the formulation of programme and budget texts as approved by the IOC Member States in the Commission's governing bodies and those texts that appear in C/5 documents. This was felt to be particularly important with regard to the structure and use of terminology as applied to programmes and subsidiary bodies established by the Commission.

(168) Some delegates referred to the implications of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and to the conduct of marine science research, and expressed the view that IOC should play a more active role in facilitating international co-operation in this important domain. Two delegates referred to the need to assist developing countries in building up the required scientific capabilities for the adequate use of marine resources and management in the exclusive Economic Zone.

(169) In referring to the manner in which Programme X.4 is planned and implemented, and to the complementary activities of IOC and the Division of Marine Sciences, a number of delegates expressed the view that the articulation

of the subprogrammes should be clarified and improvement made in the internal co-ordination of the execution of the programme as a whole. Two delegates expressed the view that the marine science component of X.5 should be merged with X.4 as a single programme under Major Programme X. One delegate expressed the view that the scientific expertise and experience of IOC was not being used to the fullest degree possible in regard to coastal and island regions. One delegate noted that both the Commission and the Division of Marine Sciences had evolved over the years, and that as a result their programmes were no longer distinct; he recommended that the Working Committee for Training, Education and Mutual Assistance (TEMA) should be jointly sponsored by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and Unesco through the Division of Marine Sciences.

(170) A few delegates felt that there was a need for a greater concentration of activities. One delegate deplored the large number of meetings in Programme X.4; she also recommended that the IOC seek to involve more women in its activities.

(171) The major global scientific programmes of the IOC set out in Subprogramme X.4.1 (Promotion of scientific investigation of the ocean and its resources) received the support of a large number of delegates. Several delegates referred to the high scientific calibre and importance of studies being undertaken by IOC in co-operation with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) on climate changes and the ocean, and expressed their interest in continuing participation in the programme. A number of delegates noted that the Commission's programmes on ocean science in relation to living resources and ocean science in relation to non-living resources were vital to the efforts of their countries to understand and exploit such resources in a rational manner. Several delegates urged the upgrading to first priority of the tide-gauge network project as recommended in draft resolution 23 C/DR.143 because their countries wished to participate. Other upgradings proposed in draft resolutions 23 C/DR.2 and DR.143 received support from various speakers.

(172) Numerous delegates supported the work undertaken in connection with marine pollution research and monitoring, and noted with satisfaction its application to both the development of methodologies on a global scale and the solution of specific regional problems in this field (e.g. in the IOC Association for the Caribbean and the Adjacent Region (IOCARIBE) and Working Group for the Western Pacific (WESTPAC)). One delegate recommended that marine pollution research in the formulation of protection measures in

the Mediterranean be developed in close co-operation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), more particularly with its co-ordinating unit for the Mediterranean Action Plan located in Athens. Another expressed deep concern about oil spills resulting from military operations undertaken against his country, and in the region, and which affect economic activities such as fisheries and the quality of the human and marine environment. A third speaker described an oil and chemical spill that had just occurred on the coastline of his country as a result of shipwreck.

(173) Concerning Subprogramme X.4.2 (Development of scientific knowledge with a view to the rational management of marine systems), several delegates expressed their satisfaction with the planned activities and their desire to participate in them. One delegate recommended that the proposed volume on the Fishes of the South-east Atlantic Ocean be also published in French.

(174) The ocean service activities of IOC included in Subprogramme X.4.3 (Ocean services, provision of oceanographic data, information, charts and warnings) were referred to by many delegates as being essential to the efforts of the world scientific community to accelerate the transfer of knowledge.

(175) Several delegates made specific reference to the integrated Global Ocean Services System (IGOSS) and the International Oceanographic Data Exchange (IODE) system, pointing out that participation in these systems had been of great benefit to their countries. Other delegates, in supporting the development of ocean services as a whole, expressed interest in receiving assistance, particularly for the establishment of tide-gauges, so that they could participate more fully. One delegate conveyed his country's invitation to host the 1986 session of the IODE Working Committee. Another delegate pointed out that his country is prepared to host a regional data centre for the central eastern Atlantic Ocean.

(176) The International Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific was recognized by some delegates as an important contribution to the work of Unesco in the mitigation of natural hazards, and a few delegates felt that there should be closer co-operation between Programme X.2 and related activities within Major Programme X.

(177) The further development of the IOC ocean mapping activities, especially regional bathymetric charts, was endorsed by certain delegates who expressed their desire to contribute to this programme at their respective regional levels. Two delegates offered assistance with the preparation and publication of charts for the IOCINCWIO region and the Central American and Caribbean and adjacent regions.

(178) Subprogramme X.4.4 (Strengthening of national and regional capacities for marine research, ocean services and training), in which support is offered to developing countries, received unanimous support from the large number of speakers who commented on this subprogramme, as well as implicit support from most speakers dealing with Programme X.4, and from other speakers commenting on the general subjects of training, regional co-operation and development. Many delegates, in expressing their appreciation of the results achieved so far, stressed the need to allocate further resources to the programme, particularly for training and education, in view of the urgent needs of their countries for which the present and forecast resources were far from being sufficient. Many speakers urged the upgrading to first priority of certain activities - or even all activities - in this subprogramme.

(179) Many speakers from developing countries expressed interest in participating in the activities of this subprogramme, some making specific offers and several others detailed requests. The delegates of two countries offered their research vessels for regional co-operative research projects in the Mediterranean Sea and western Indian Ocean. The delegates of two other countries strongly supported the co-operative research project on the physical oceanography of the eastern Mediterranean Sea. One delegate said that his country offered to hold a training course on estuarine research methods. Another delegate indicated that his country offered fellowships.

(180) Some delegates proposed new or reinforced initiatives for research and training projects in Africa, the Red Sea, the Gulf, the Eastern Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea. Several delegates requested significant assistance to develop or strengthen their countries' marine research laboratories and vessels, university departments and scientific personnel.

(181) Several delegates suggested various ways to strengthen the subprogramme, such as longer-term training, systematic identification of bilateral opportunities for training and fellowships, strengthening the Pacific programme, and better articulation of the planned activities. Some delegates described training opportunities available in their countries.

(182) Some delegates stressed the fact that the amounts available to each region were far less than that required to facilitate increased participation of developing countries in marine research and the programme of IOC. Other delegates emphasized the importance they attach to the implementation of the Unesco/IOC's Comprehensive Plan for a Major Programme of assistance to enhance the marine science capabilities of

developing countries, and recommended that high priority be given to the relevant activities under Subprogramme X.4.4. One delegation announced a contribution to the Unesco Trust Fund in support of WESTPAC for TEMA activities and requested that complementary funds be allocated under the regular programme.

(183) Concerning Subprogramme X.4.5, many delegates, in referring to specific IOC regional subsidiary bodies, such as those in the Caribbean, Western Pacific, Central Eastern Atlantic and Central Indian Ocean, endorsed the further development of these bodies and expressed the interest of their countries in participating more effectively in the scientific and service activities at the regional level. One delegate stressed the fact that the IOC regional subsidiary bodies cover all marine scientific disciplines and that international co-operation has increased substantially at the regional level through such bodies, particularly in the Western Pacific (WESTPAC). Similar positive references were made by various delegates to IOCARIBE.

(184) Several speakers noted the important work being carried out by the IOC Subcommission for the Caribbean and adjacent regions and called for rapid recruitment of the staff member to be located in the regional secretariat in Cartagena, thanks to the kind offer of the Government of Colombia to host the secretariat.

(185) Two delegations said that their countries were prepared to host the meetings of the Regional Subcommission for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions and the Programme Group for the Central Indian Ocean, and thus urged the upgrading of the relevant activity to first priority as proposed by the Executive Board and in draft resolution 23 C/DR.135. Another delegation urged that the preparations for the Joint Oceanographic Assembly be carried out. One delegate, supporting draft resolution 23 C/DR.282, mentioned a possible conference to mobilize African interest in marine sciences.

(186) Numerous speakers referred to the catalytic action of the IOC whereby support from Member States was mobilized for the concerted work of the Commission as a whole. Some speakers noted specific examples by which their countries had benefited from such co-operative support. Two speakers, in referring to studies undertaken by the IOC Executive Council, thought that consideration should be given to the extent to which IOC Member States could provide direct financial support to the Commission.

(187) Many delegates indicated specific activities that their countries wish to support, offering assistance in the form of a financial contribution, the hosting of meetings and training courses, and the funding of marine science fellowships. They requested that

these be borne in mind when the annual programme for 1986 and 1987 is implemented.

Programme X.5: Management of coastal and island regions

(188) Many delegates supported Programme X.5, referring to the Major Interregional Project for Research and Training Leading to the Integrated Management of Coastal Systems (COMAR) and the MAB activities in coastal and island regions. Speakers stressed the importance of giving proper attention to the highly fragile and vulnerable environments of coastal and island regions undergoing changes due to increased population pressure. The programme was recognized as deserving special interest because of its multidisciplinary nature, calling not only for co-operation between marine and terrestrial scientists but also between scientists and planners.

(189) A number of delegates expressed concern about the apparent reduction - amounting to 31 per cent - in the budgetary allocation to this programme. Some delegates requested that both the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Man and the Biosphere Programme increase their inputs to relevant activities of Programme X.5.

(190) A number of delegates stressed the importance of effective co-operation and the complementarity of related activities within MAB projects, the IOC and COMAR. Two delegates expressed the view that the marine science component of Programme X.5 should be merged with Programme X.4; one of them suggested that the terrestrial part of Programme X.5 should be transferred to Programme X.6.

(191) Another delegate described work in her country where MAB is used as an overall concept to co-ordinate interdisciplinary research in coastal zones. Two delegates called for close co-operation with UNEP's Mediterranean Action Plan. Other speakers commended the work done in Programme X.5 and highlighted, in particular, the importance of the training programmes which come under Subprogramme X.5.3.

(192) One delegate, referring to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, considered that the Unesco contribution to the implementation of the scientific and technological component of the Convention should go beyond Programmes X.4 and X.5 and should benefit also from relevant parts of Major Programmes XI, VIII and IX.

(193) Under Subprogramme X.5.1 and with reference to COMAR, several delegates alluded to coastal erosion, other coastal geological processes, mangroves, and land-use planning. They stressed the need to train specialists in these and many other subjects concerning the coastal area.

(194) A few delegates considered the planned pilot projects within COMAR to be an appropriate mechanism for the implementation of this subprogramme.

(195) One delegate asked for a better definition of COMAR's target regions.

(196) Another delegate requested assistance under COMAR for a programme to study the causes of the dying of the coral reef in his country. Another delegate requested that a study of the fragile coastal areas of the world be undertaken.

(197) One delegate requested the setting up of a research programme on the city of Ganvié (Benin) and of its water environment. One delegate requested implementation of a co-operative COMAR project on the Rifiji delta on the East Africa coast. Another delegate pointed to the need for an operational project to combat coastal erosion in West Africa. One delegate requested that the results from the subprogramme be distributed widely, while another requested specific information on coastal lagoons. Another delegate described the joint implementation by Unesco and his country of the international interdisciplinary project concerning the Venice lagoon.

(198) Several speakers referred to the work within the MAB Programme in contributing to efforts for the improved management of coastal and island ecosystems. At the same time a number of delegates regretted the apparent reduction in resources allocated to MAB work on coastal and island systems compared to other parts of the MAB Programme.

(199) A number of delegates referred to the support of Japan, through funds-in-trust arrangements, for reinforcing links between MAB and COMAR projects in the South-East Asian region, and more particularly, for convening a regional meeting on coastal and estuarine zones, under the joint sponsorship of MAB and COMAR. Several delegates welcomed the intended support of Japan to follow-up regional seminars, and requested that these should be recognized more explicitly in the 23 C/5 proposals.

(200) In welcoming proposals for the integrated management of islands within Subprogramme X.5.2, several delegates gave examples of MAB activities on insular systems, particularly in the Mediterranean and Pacific regions. Special mention was made of the setting-up of experimental research stations on several Mediterranean islands, and of the convening in October 1985 in the Balearic Islands of a regional meeting on the problems of development of small Mediterranean islands. The intention within MAB to organize an international conference on small oceanic islands was welcomed.

(201) Concerning Subprogramme X.5.3 (Training of specialists), several delegates urged that training should be

given much higher priority. They welcomed draft resolutions which were presented to this effect. One delegate offered training courses on coastal zone management in his country.

Programme X.6: Land use planning and terrestrial resources

(202) Almost all speakers referred to, and unanimously reaffirmed their support for the MAB Programme, and considered that it should receive high priority in the attribution of funds and personnel. One delegate said that absolute priority should be given to MAB, and that it should not be affected by budgetary cuts.

(203) In referring to the recommendations and conclusions of the eighth session of the MAB Council, several delegates welcomed the setting of priorities by the Council and the establishment of a panel to advise on the general scientific development of the programme, and hoped that sufficient resources would be attributed by Unesco to allow this panel to function effectively. The need for this panel to provide practical advice based on field experience, besides considering scientific issues of a more theoretical nature, was stressed in one intervention.

(204) Several speakers felt that recommendations of the MAB Council to maintain equilibrium between the different ecological regions were not entirely reflected in the provisions of document 23 C/5, and hoped that a more equitable balance might be possible in the proposals for the 1988-1989 biennium. In this respect, several delegates expressed regret at the relatively small resources accorded to work in temperate zones as well as the dispersion of MAB activities on inland waters (MAB Project Area 5) and high mountains (MAB Project Area 6) among several subprogrammes of the draft 23 C/5. One delegate considered that it was difficult to relate entries in the present 23 C/5 with the various international themes of MAB, and felt this was a source of confusion to MAB National Committees.

(205) A number of delegates drew attention to aspects of the MAB approach that they considered of particular importance, including: the high quality of the research carried out; the adoption of a systems approach to problem solving; the use of systems analysis and modelling as a tool for understanding ecosystem functioning; the importance of taking advantage of traditional ecological knowledge in research and management; the participation of natural and social scientists as well as education specialists in the Programme.

(206) Several delegates referred to topics which they felt should receive greater attention throughout the MAB Programme, including interactions

between soil conditions and land-use in various ecological regions, including water-soil-plant interactions; and activities at the interface between socio-economic and ecological concerns. The need for reinforcement of social science inputs to MAB activities was underlined by several speakers.

(207) Two delegates felt that the environmental effects of the arms race was a topic that should not be ignored within MAB. Another delegate counselled the need to avoid duplication of work with ICSU's Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) in respect of risk assessment and risk perception.

(208) A number of delegates gave examples of the implementation of the MAB Programme in their countries, giving information on National Committees, field projects, biosphere reserves, technical working groups, etc. that had been put into place as part of the national contribution to the MAB Programme. Indications of bilateral co-operation between contiguous Member States were given.

(209) Several speakers welcomed the continued focus of MAB on practical land-use problems while emphasizing the need to place these problems within their broader spatial contexts and to maintain the global coherence of the Programme. The importance of MAB as a vehicle for integration among disciplines and different parts of the community was mentioned by one delegate, who described steps in her country to incorporate the concerns of Programmes X.3, X.5, X.6, X.8 and X.9, among others, within a specific field project.

(210) In respect to the overall servicing of the Programme, several delegates welcomed the action by the Director-General to include specialists in social sciences within the MAB Secretariat. Several speakers underlined the importance of the collection and dissemination of information as an important element in the servicing of the programme, and in this respect welcomed the new bulletin InfomAB and the computerized data base for publications arising from MAB field projects.

(211) A number of delegates mentioned the use of aerospace technologies in promoting environmental protection and land-use planning. One delegate offered on behalf of his Academy of Sciences to host an international conference in this field and expressed the hope that Unesco would contribute to it. Several speakers supported this view.

(212) A number of delegates underlined the importance of land-use planning and resource utilization in the humid and subhumid tropics, and commended the proposed programme activities within Subprogramme X.6.2. Several speakers described particular activities in their countries contributing to the

network of pilot projects of research, training and demonstration in these zones.

(213) Several delegates expressed interest in the proposals for comparative studies and technical syntheses, specific mention being made of the collaborative programmes on tropical soil biology and fertility, and response of savannahs to stress and disturbance - both joint ventures of Unesco-MAB and the Decade of the Tropics of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). Proposed collaboration between MAB and the International Biosciences Network in the work on savannahs was welcomed by one speaker. Examples were given of seminars being planned in different countries for synthesizing existing knowledge about tropical ecosystems. One delegate mentioned the interest of his country in organizing a workshop on artificial tropical ecosystems.

(214) In welcoming activities for training in tropical biology, several speakers gave examples of regional training courses planned for the coming biennium. Several delegates expressed support for the International Centre on Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) for the Hindu-Kush-Himalayan region in Kathmandu, and expressed the intention of their countries to continue to co-operate in its work.

(215) In respect of Subprogramme X.6.3, a large number of delegates reaffirmed the importance that they accorded to Unesco's work in the integrated management and development of arid and semi-arid zones. This work was of capital importance to many developing countries and several speakers felt that it should receive higher priority in Unesco's work programme. In underlining the significance of the phenomena and processes of desertification, several delegates expressed the wish that close links be developed between MAB work on arid lands and desertification and work on drought within Programme X.2 on natural hazards. In this respect, reference was made to the development of early drought warning systems and of national desertification strategies as well as projects contributing to the Action Plan to Combat Desertification. The continued need for close working relations with other international organizations (such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Sahelian Office (UNSO)) was also mentioned.

(216) One delegate drew the Commission's attention to the success of the Integrated Project on Arid Lands (IPAL) in northern Kenya, which had given rise to the establishment of the Kenya Arid Lands Research Centre (KALRES). In acknowledging the support of Unesco and the Federal Republic of

Germany in the IPAL and KALRES operations, he indicated that his government would shortly be taking over the formal operation of this centre. He also invited scientists and managers from other countries to visit the KALRES study area, to take advantage of the approaches to arid land research and management that had been tried out there. Another speaker referred to his first-hand observations of the effectiveness of the project in northern Kenya in promoting interdisciplinary approaches to environmental management.

(217) Several delegates mentioned the efforts undertaken in their respective countries in combating desertification and in ensuring the development of arid and semi-arid zones. They asked for increased support to developing pilot projects on research, training and demonstration aimed at establishing the scientific basis and strengthening the technical capacities which underpin these efforts. A few emphasized the importance and need to increase exchanges of personnel and regional and sub-regional co-operation in these fields. Particular emphasis was given to the important role of water resources for land reclamation in arid and semi-arid zones and to the necessity of developing integrated studies on utilizing land and water resources. In this respect the wish was expressed that the MAB and IHP programmes should be closely co-ordinated.

(218) Several delegates gave examples of work in their countries contributing to the activities on integrated land-use planning and continuous monitoring in the temperate and cold zones within Subprogramme X.6.4. A number of speakers regretted that higher priority had not been given to these activities, and that a regrettably low profile had been accorded to MAB work on the environmental effects of intensive agriculture. Issues considered by delegates to be of particular interest included the process of eutrophication and the assessment of the environmental effects of pollution in inland waters and the work of the Northern Science Network.

(219) Activities for the training of specialists and land-use planning within Subprogramme X.6.5 were commended by a number of delegates, and two mentioned training courses being carried out in their countries. Several delegates expressed regret that certain postgraduate training courses had been accorded second priority in the draft 23 C/5 proposals, and urged that they be upgraded.

Programme X.7: Urban systems and urbanization

(220) A number of delegates made special reference to, and indicated strong support for, Programme X.7 which

includes support within MAB for integrated studies of cities considered as ecological systems, as a basis for planning and management. The pertinence of Subprogrammes X.7.1 (pilot research projects) and X.7.2 (training and information) was underlined within the contexts of burgeoning urbanization and the challenges of urban planning and management, particularly in developing countries. A number of speakers regretted the limited resources assigned to such an important programme.

(221) Several speakers counselled that full advantage should be taken of the lessons from early pilot projects, such as that based on the city of Rome. Other delegates provided information on plans for new MAB studies on urban systems. In this respect one delegate described plans for a project in his country that he felt might become a model pilot project at both national and regional levels, with allied training and information activities. The setting up in his country of a continuing working group on urban systems was mentioned by another delegate.

(222) Several speakers mentioned the upgrading of urban areas as an important responsibility for architects and urban planners. One delegation mentioned rehabilitation projects in historic centres with the participation of the inhabitants concerned and expressed its appreciation regarding Unesco's activities in this particular area.

(223) Mention was made by various delegates of the importance of taking due account of the needs of urban poor and refugees, the relationships between urban systems and their resource base and rural hinterlands, urban green spaces, and the special problems of coastal cities.

(224) It was considered vital to promote endogenous expertise and capacities of developing countries, and one speaker expressed the view that the use of national languages was essential regarding information on such issues and that it could arouse better public awareness.

(225) The creation of the Hassan II Prize for projects on the urban environment was mentioned.

(226) Water resources in urban areas was a topic accorded special importance by several delegates. In referring to previous co-operative work on this topic within the framework of IHP as well as MAB, one speaker regretted that urban hydrology did not figure explicitly in Programme X.7 and expressed the hope that continued collaboration between IHP and MAB on this topic would in fact be reflected in the programme for the coming biennium.

(227) One delegate mentioned the interest of his country in hosting a training seminar on urban systems as a follow-up to an earlier symposium held in 1983.

(228) The importance of training was stressed by a number of delegates, special emphasis being accorded to the needs of the developing countries and to public participation. Several speakers welcomed the launching of a training programme in the field of planning, design and management of human settlements and their environment at the University of Sao Paulo and commended inclusion of this activity under Subprogramme X.7.2. One delegate thought that there appeared to be some overlapping with the overall activities of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements/Habitat (UNCHS), while another, on the contrary, expressed the view that no organization can be charged solely with this vital task.

Programme X.8: The natural heritage

(229) Almost all speakers referred to, and unanimously supported Programme X.8 on the implementation of the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves and the natural part of the World Heritage Convention.

(230) Many delegates referred to biosphere reserves and to the prime importance of the international biosphere reserve network to the continuation and strengthening of the MAB Programme; biosphere reserves should be used as the sites of scientific research, environmental monitoring and on-site training and education activities. In this respect, several delegates considered that all activities of this programme should be given top priority and should not suffer from deficiencies of human or financial resources.

(231) Several delegates named the biosphere reserves that had already been established in their countries and the research projects and workshops which had taken place recently or were planned for the near future. Several delegates expressed their countries' intention to establish new biosphere reserves.

(232) One delegate described the care taken by the MAB National Committee of his country in setting up new biosphere reserves, with special emphasis on applying scientific rigour and involving local people. One delegate noted that the Nordic region had been slow to develop biosphere reserves, but now that the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves had been adopted, progress in this respect would be made very soon.

(233) One delegate announced that his country would be organizing a European scientific Congress on Biosphere Reserves aimed at enhancing the implementation of the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves, in particular in the field of ecological monitoring.

(234) One delegate noted that the biosphere reserve network could never have been developed by one State alone and expressed satisfaction that 243 biosphere reserves had already been

established. Another delegate gave an example of how the biosphere reserve network had helped to foster co-operation between Eastern and Western European countries.

(235) One delegate requested that the effects of chemical and other weapons on the natural environment be studied within the framework of Programme X.8.

(236) Several delegates noted the importance of making inventories of natural resources in biosphere reserves in order to plan for their wise use and management. In this respect, one delegate informed the Commission that his country was developing a vegetation map using the methodology derived in biosphere reserves.

(237) Several delegates stressed the vital role of biosphere reserve as in situ gene banks and one delegate expressed the wish to extend interest also in establishing ex situ gene banks to complement these measures. Several delegates noted that activities foreseen under paragraph 10806 had been given second priority and expressed the wish that high priority be given in conformity with the decision of the Executive Board at its 121st session related to the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves.

(238) The importance of strengthening the training of specialists in nature conservation in developing countries was stressed by many delegates, some of whom regretted that certain activities foreseen under Subprogramme X.8.4 (paragraph 10827 (b)) had been given second priority. In this respect, one delegate noted the reduction in extra-budgetary support available for training from the World Heritage Fund and recognized the responsibility of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention in increasing the support available for this vital activity.

(239) Many delegates mentioned the importance of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in protecting outstanding natural areas. Several delegates indicated that they would increase the level of their activities under the Convention in the future.

(240) One delegate mentioned that the Convention had provided a framework for co-operation with a neighbouring country in reviewing potential nominations to the World Heritage List. One delegate stressed his country's commitment to the Convention and its desire to serve on the World Heritage Committee.

(241) Some delegates regretted the serious situation of the World Heritage Fund and a few delegates appealed to Member States not only to become States Parties to the World Heritage Convention but also to regularly pay their contributions to the World Heritage Fund. In this respect, one delegate suggested that campaigns could be launched for

natural properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. One delegate mentioned the support that his country had provided to this programme by seconding a specialist to the Secretariat for the period 1983-1985.

(242) One delegate urged that there be an increase in membership of the Ecosystem Conservation Group by the inclusion of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), that greater attention be paid to environmental monitoring as an integral part of the Biosphere Reserve Action Plan and that thought be given to the establishment of an environmental specimen bank.

Programme X.9: Environmental education and information

(243) Almost all speakers stressed the importance of Programme X.9 on environmental education and information, whose activities involved three different sectors of Unesco. Five speakers insisted on the development of inter-disciplinarity and intersectoral co-operation within Programme X.9 and with other programmes in the Education and Science Sectors.

(244) As various parts of this programme involved different specialists in different units of the Secretariat, several speakers proposed that the activities of Programme X.9 should be better co-ordinated and that thought should be given to bringing them together in a single unit. A number of delegates considered that responsibility for this programme should rather rest with the Education or Science Sector.

(245) Several speakers underlined the high priority of Programme X.9 and reiterated their satisfaction and support, suggesting that an environmental dimension be introduced into all areas of education.

(246) Several speakers also expressed their surprise at the reduction of funds envisaged for that programme totalling 13.9 per cent for Programme X.9 but 19 per cent for Subprogramme X.9.1. Particular regret was expressed at the decreased contribution of the Science Sector to activities within this programme. Other speakers mentioned the links that exist between activities within X.9 and those carried out by the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP). They welcomed the co-operation between UNEP and Unesco in the field of environmental education and proposed to extend it to other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

(247) Several speakers emphasized the need for stock-taking and evaluation of the progress achieved in environmental education ten years after the Tbilisi Conference. Two speakers suggested that an international congress be held, and offered to host it. Referring

to UNEP's decision on the subject, one speaker expressed surprise at the lack of funds under Programme X.9 for the above-mentioned congress, and suggested that an amount of \$40,000 should be foreseen under Unesco's regular programme for this purpose.

(248) Several speakers stressed the need for evaluation of activities undertaken under Programme X.9 as an in-built part of this programme.

(249) Commenting on Programme X.9, a number of speakers emphasized that the further development of environmental education and its incorporation at all levels of education and training should aim at certain target groups such as decision-makers, generalists, professional groups and the general public. Several speakers mentioned the need to develop postgraduate courses and the retraining of professionals in the field of environmental education.

(250) Several speakers pointed out that Programme X.9 responds to the pre-occupation of the developing countries and is held in high priority by the international community. However, more attention should be given to developing countries in the tropics.

(251) A number of speakers mentioned the links that this programme must have with scientific activities and proposed the extension of environmental education to all actions of Major Programme X, especially to the publication of research findings and the training of specialists.

(252) In considering the substance of efforts to disseminate scientific information on the environment, one speaker felt that emphasis should be given to practical issues such as those linked to soils and climate. Another delegate stressed the importance of relating measures for environmental education with perception of environmental quality.

(253) The role of the MAB Programme in promoting the diversification of scientific information was mentioned, through such means as the Ecology in Action poster exhibit and audio-visual programmes. One speaker commended the production of the slide programme based on the Ecology in Action exhibit, which he felt would have a considerable impact on the teaching of ecology. Another speaker felt that efforts to promote the MAB concepts are difficult to bring home to the public, and need therefore to be promoted with special vigour and could not bear fruit without a sufficient budget.

(254) Several speakers underlined the importance of the journal Nature and Resources for their country and expressed support for the continuation of all linguistic versions of this journal. The importance of publishing this journal in Chinese was underlined by two delegates.

(255) Many speakers endorsed draft

resolution 23 C/DR.135 and recommended the upgrading of activities under Sub-programme X.9.1, among others, to provide matching funds for regional action plans in the field of environmental education based on intersectoral co-ordination and inter-agency co-operation (paragraph 10913 (e)).

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(256) In his reply to the debate on discussion unit 15, the representative of the Director-General expressed his gratitude for the generous appreciation and valuable guidance given by the Commission. He thanked the Chairmen of the IGCP, IHP, IOC and MAB governing bodies for their excellent introductions.

(257) All speakers had commended Major Programme X. Its main international scientific programmes enjoy a high reputation and unanimous support. Many delegates wanted more financial resources for the Major Programme and supported the upgrades recommended by the Executive Board. The importance of training had been underlined throughout. The need for in-built programme evaluation was repeatedly underlined.

(258) Closer co-operation is needed between the programmes in Major Programme X and this will be kept in mind during its implementation. The need for co-operation with all United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations to enhance programme outputs and to avoid duplication was stressed.

(259) Questions were raised about the structure of Major Programme X, particularly concerning Programme X.5 and the spreading of MAB activities over several programmes (from X.5 to X.9). The structure of document 23 C/5 follows that of the second Medium-Term Plan, but consultations will be carried out concerning the intergovernmental councils for possible improvements in document 24 C/5.

(260) The following are some important points from the reply of the representative of the Director-General when addressing individual programmes.

(261) In Programme X.1 (Earth's crust and its mineral and energy resources), suitable scientific monitoring of IGCP projects must remain a constant concern and this view is shared by IUGS. The representative of the Director-General will convey the observations of the Commission to IUGS and to the Board of IGCP.

(262) Regarding Programme X.2 (Natural hazards), an independent group of experts will continue with an in-depth evaluation, the results of which will be available in 1986 and will be used to improve the programme.

(263) Referring to Programme X.3 (Water resources) and the International Hydrological Programme, the Commission stressed in particular the importance of

training and expressed satisfaction at the increasing number of postgraduate courses. The representative of the Director-General welcomed the wide support for activities planned under IHP-III.

(264) Programme X.4 (The ocean and its resources) combines the marine science programmes of Unesco and those of its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission. The appeal made by the Chairman of IOC to strengthen the resources of IOC, including its staff, to enable it to respond to the needs of Member States, received a positive response. The 13th session of the IOC Assembly decided to study the measures needed to ensure the stability and continuity of the resources required for the Commission and the necessary means to enhance its role and efficiency. It is clear that the future of IOC will require direct support from Member States, complementing the basic one provided by Unesco.

(265) From statements made on Programme X.5 (Management of coastal and island regions), it is evident that there is still much to be done in order to bring together the relevant contributions of such valuable undertakings as IOC and MAB projects and the experience acquired in the Major Inter-regional Project COMAR. It is necessary to consider further how to respond to the concerns expressed during the debate of the Commission. The governing organs of IOC and of the MAB Programme will be informed of the Commission's views and a study on this subject will be communicated to them by the Secretariat.

(266) With regard to Programme X.6 (Land-use planning and terrestrial resources), which forms the core of MAB, the continuation of its essential characteristics and the renewal of its activities was commended. Support was expressed for the new advisory panels, for the improved dissemination of information, and for the comparative studies in a few finely focused technical fields. In particular, the importance of MAB's work in the integrated management and development of arid and semi-arid zones was emphasized. This work is of utmost importance to many developing countries.

(267) In Programme X.7 (Urban systems and urbanization), the representative of the Director-General noted the support for new topics for MAB field projects. He agreed as to the need for co-operation between IHP and MAB in the management of water resources in urban areas and promised to ensure better complementarity of Programme X.7 with activities of UNCHS/Habitat.

(268) Within Programme X.8 (The natural heritage), the representative of the Director-General was glad to note the strong support for Unesco's efforts to protect the natural heritage and global biological diversity. He was

grateful to those Member States intending to implement the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves by setting up new biosphere reserves, or by organizing MAB research projects within existing ones.

(269) He also welcomed the interest in the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage to conserve outstanding natural areas, as a complement to activities carried out under the MAB Programme.

(270) With regard to Programme X.9 (Environmental education and infor-

mation), dismay had been expressed at the reduction in funding and at the much smaller support to related activities of the Science Sector.

(271) A more concerted action between different sectors of Unesco in environmental education was advocated, as well as better links of Programme X.9 with the other programmes of Major Programme X. A better use of the results of the intergovernmental scientific programmes had been called for to improve Programme X.9.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 9 - MAJOR PROGRAMME VI: THE SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATION TO DEVELOPMENT (PROGRAMMES VI.1, VI.2, AND VI.3) AND OF ITEM 4.2 - SETTING UP OF AN 'INTERGOVERNMENTAL INFORMATICS PROGRAMME' AND OF A COMMITTEE TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CO-ORDINATING THAT PROGRAMME

(272) Commission III devoted its 12th (in part), 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th meetings to consideration of discussion unit 9, which covered:

Programme VI.1: Research, training and international co-operation in the natural sciences;

Programme VI.2: Research, training and international co-operation in technology and the engineering sciences;

Programme VI.3: Research, training and international co-operation in key areas in science and technology.

(273) The Commission considered these programmes in relation to corresponding sections of document 23 C/5 (paragraph 06101 to 06336) and parts of the proposed resolution (paragraph 06002) relating to Major Programme VI, together with draft resolutions 23 C/DRs 11, 11 Rev., 32, 33, 34, 34 Corr., 49, 52, 62, 74, 79, 81, 97, 100, 101, 110, 111, 113, 118, 140, 142, 143, 143 Add., 143 Add.2., 143 Add.2, 143 Annex, 179, 183, 184, 200, 203, 260, 265, 282 and 286. The Commission also examined item 4.2 (Setting-up of an 'Intergovernmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme), giving consideration to document 23 C/14.

Introduction by the representative of the Director-General

(274) The representative of the Director-General, in his introduction, pointed out that Major Programme VI brings together the basic sciences, the engineering sciences and the human and social sciences.

(275) Programme VI.1 deals with research, training and international co-operation in the basic sciences. It contains three subprogrammes: Strengthening of national research potential and advanced training with research workers; University and postgraduate training; and Development of regional and international co-operation. In the latter

subprogramme, the importance of co-operation with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and with the International Centre for Theoretical Physics, non-governmental international organizations and regional and international networks was stressed.

(276) Programme VI.2 deals with research, training and international co-operation in technology and the engineering sciences. The first subprogramme, on Strengthening of national potential for research and technological adaptation and improvement of infrastructures and technological facilities, incorporates two new networks: in computer applications and earthquake engineering. The second subprogramme on Training of engineers and technicians, together with that on Development of regional and international co-operation, forms the core of Programme VI.2. Emphasis in Subprogramme VI.2.2 is placed on technician training, continuing engineering education, with special reference to women, and the development of educational methods. Special attention will be paid to co-operation between engineering institutions and industry. In Subprogramme VI.2.3, the network approach will be continued, and South-South co-operation will be encouraged. The Major Regional Project in South-East Asia and the Pacific will be evaluated.

(277) Programme VI.3 (Research, training and international co-operation in key areas in science and technology) deals with informatics, applied microbiology and biotechnology, and new and renewable energy sources.

(278) The Informatics subprogramme is designed to respond to the needs of Member States to keep pace with the rapid advances of computer science and its applications. The programme in the field of applied microbiology and biotechnology aims at establishing an effective system of training, research and exchange of information relating to the various fields of these disciplines.

Programme Commissions

The third subprogramme on renewable energies and information networks on new and renewable energies would stress pilot projects, energy planning and education and training activities. An evaluation of the Energy Information Regional Pilot Projects had been undertaken and its proposals were being implemented.

(279) Item 4.2 concerns the setting-up of a proposed intergovernmental informatics programme. A report of the work entrusted to the Interim Intergovernmental Committee is presented in document 23 C/14.

Debate on Programmes VI.1, VI.2 and VI.3, and item 4.2: Setting up of an 'Intergovernmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme

(280) Seventy delegates and representatives of the United Nations Organization for Industrial Development (UNIDO), the Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics (IBI), the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO), the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and the Union of International Technical Associations (UATI) took part in the debate. Delegates expressed their overall approval for the activities proposed under Programmes VI.1, VI.2 and VI.3. The importance of Major Programme VI for the development of the scientific and technological potential of developing countries was highlighted and the emphasis placed on education and training was widely commended. Several delegates expressed the view that this programme was the core of all the Sector's scientific programmes, and one emphasized the links with Major Programme X. Indeed, some delegates commented that without proper programmes of education, training and research in the pure, applied and engineering sciences no effective development could be expected. One delegate welcomed the shift in emphasis in the programme towards the application of science and technology to development.

(281) Some delegates referred to the need for more cohesion, and cautioned against the fragmentation of activities in Major Programme VI, even if some saw the latter as deriving from the wide spectrum of the scientific and technological fields that it had to cover. At the same time several delegates noted that the draft of the Major Programme was well structured and balanced. Several delegates stressed the importance of training and the need to maintain this activity even at the expense of some meetings. Many delegates expressed disappointment at the reduction in budget of Major Programme VI. One delegate requested a better balance be achieved between reflection and operational activities. Several delegates queried staff

costs in Major Programme VI.

(282) A number of themes recurred during the discussion, including the need for additional concentration in some areas, and a more equitable decentralization of activities, the importance of scientific-industrial links, the value of regional co-operation especially through networks and the need to help the least developed countries. Many delegates expressed support for draft resolution 23 C/DR.282 calling for the formulation and implementation of a comprehensive programme for the development of scientific and technological potential in Africa.

Programme VI.1: Research, training and international co-ordination in the natural sciences

(283) All speakers expressed their support of Programme VI.1 underlining the importance of the basic sciences in the development process, and technology transfer. One delegate noted that Unesco is the only United Nations body responsible for basic sciences and their application to development. Some delegates suggested that in future the activities should be more concentrated. One delegate stressed the importance of a continuous evaluation process. The great majority of delegates underlined the importance of the training component in this programme, and many argued for more emphasis on the training of technicians.

(284) Several speakers underlined the importance of regional co-operation and expressed their appreciation of the good results obtained through the various regional networks. Several delegates also supported the activities of the regional and international centres.

(285) Subprogramme VI.1.1 was supported by all speakers. Some delegates stressed the necessity of involving international and regional professional organizations in the activities of this subprogramme. Most speakers made specific comments on each of the five actions, and several indicated their countries' interest in hosting certain activities.

(286) Many speakers supported the activities of the mathematics programme. Some delegates referred to the unique nature of the International Centre for Pure and Applied Mathematics (ICPAM) for the training of young mathematicians from developing countries, both for mathematics and its application to informatics. Several other delegates mentioned the close links between mathematics and computer science. One delegate raised the problem of artificial intelligence as a possible topic of research seminars planned under this paragraph.

(287) The creation of the Félix Houphouët Boigny Prize for mathematics was mentioned by one delegate.

(288) Many delegates commented

favourably on the programme in physics, and several gave special support to activities in solid state physics. Some delegates expressed their desire for an increase in the resources allocated to this action, in particular the activity concerning research grants. One delegate was in favour of the undertaking of new Unesco projects in advanced areas of physics as well as in other basic sciences. Delegates offered to host physics research seminars in their countries.

(289) Many delegates made comments supporting the programmes in chemistry. Programmes in natural products chemistry and medicinal plants chemistry were considered particularly important by some of these countries, while one delegate emphasized the need for industrial chemistry. Several countries offered to host training courses and workshops.

(290) All speakers expressed their support for the programme on biology. They underlined the importance of training in the different fields of the subject and the usefulness of fellowships for advanced study.

(291) Some delegates stressed the importance of continued co-operation between Unesco and the International Cell Research Organization (ICRO) and the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO). Some delegates expressed their desire to see the topics in biology expanded. One delegate noted a certain imbalance in the biology programme in favour of neuroscience. Some delegates expressed their satisfaction with fellowships in neurobiology. One delegate noted an important role of the network for the implementation of biology programmes.

(292) Many delegates, underlining the importance of the training of scientists, strongly supported the international network of long-term postgraduate training and research courses in the basic sciences. One delegate suggested that one course at least be devoted to more general topics such as management for research and innovation. Some delegates offered to host one of the postgraduate training courses in their countries.

(293) Many speakers supported the activities under Subprogramme VI.1.2. Most gave the highest priority to the programme on low-cost, locally produced equipment. One delegate felt that the activities should be expanded to include institutions in Africa. The problems of the repair and maintenance of equipment were referred to by several speakers and two delegates requested help in establishing national programmes in their countries. Training of technicians was supported by some delegates and the post-university training of high-level specialists was highlighted by a number of them. Several also gave their support to university laboratory curriculum development in each of the experimental

sciences. One delegate commented favourably on the increase in resources for this subprogramme.

(294) The International Network for Chemical Education was referred to by several delegates, who felt that it deserved more support to allow the expansion of its activities.

(295) The majority of delegates spoke about the importance for Unesco of strengthening the co-operation with ICSU, its member unions and the other non-governmental organizations mentioned under Subprogramme VI.1.3. One delegate noted that whilst this sort of co-operation was satisfactory, Unesco must carry out a qualitative evaluation of the results with regard to development.

(296) Many delegates underlined the important role which the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) plays in the promotion of co-operation in pure and applied physics and in the training of physicists, mainly for developing countries.

(297) Some speakers supported co-operation with IBRO, ICRO, IOCD (International Organization for Chemistry for Development), and other non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations at the regional and interregional level.

(298) Several delegates underlined the importance of European scientific co-operation, particularly in the fields of electrochemistry, biomaterials and biotechnologies, biophysics, and chemistry of organic natural products. Some delegates pointed out that the participation of the European region was weak in the activities of this subprogramme, and requested that the Scientific Co-operation Bureau for the European region be strengthened. The transfer of the Bureau to Vienna would serve this purpose and further promote European scientific co-operation for the benefit of both this and other regions. In this connection one delegate expressed the wish that a decision on the transfer be made before the end of the year.

(299) The Regional Networks for the Chemistry of Natural Products and for Micro-biology in South-East Asia were discussed by many delegates. Commenting on the recent independent evaluations of both the networks, one delegate maintained that the achievements over the previous ten years of operation had been remarkable, and others felt that the network operations were cost-effective and programme-effective. One delegate requested support for the Asian Network for Analytical and Inorganic Chemistry while another referred to the joint Unesco/IUPAC (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry) programme for Latin America.

(300) Some delegates expressed interest in Unesco's assistance for the development of scientific and technological co-operation between major centres for particle physics.

Programme Commissions

(301) One delegate supported the course in South and Central Asia on microprocessors in physics research. Another delegate expressed his support for the joint activities of Unesco and the Latin American Centre for Physics (CLAF), as well as his country's desire to host one of the research seminars in physics. One delegate felt that the share of resources allocated to the activities in Arab States under paragraph 06124 should be increased.

(302) One delegate proposed that activities in all fields of the life sciences be expanded in the European region.

Programme VI.2: Research, training and international co-operation in technology and the engineering sciences

(303) Many speakers noted the importance of research, training and international co-operation in the engineering sciences. Several delegates referred to the development of appropriate technologies, together with alternative energy sources, as being vital to development, particularly for the least developed countries.

(304) Subprogramme VI.2.1, was supported by a large number of speakers. Support was expressed by many delegates for the proposed activities within its framework in metrology, standardization and quality control. Some delegates noted with satisfaction the co-operation with the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and the Union of International Technical Associations (UITA).

(305) Many delegates proposed an intensification of Unesco's activities for training and retraining of engineers and researchers in the computer sciences, and for the preparation of software for industrial applications of computers in industry, including artificial intelligence research and the development of expert systems.

(306) The role of industrial robotics in the future development of production was stressed by many delegates, who requested the organization of post-graduate courses and dissemination of information on industrial robotics and its application.

(307) One delegate requested a consideration of the role of space technology, including remote sensing, as a tool for development.

(308) Several delegates expressed their interest in the International Network of Centres for Computer Applications, indicating their willingness to be included in its activities. One delegate suggested that such a network should develop its activities within the framework of the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme.

(309) A number of delegates emphasized the need to mount programmes to develop building materials for low-cost

housing in urban and rural areas, and offered their technical experience in this field.

(310) A number of delegates indicated their countries' willingness to participate in the activities on technological adaptation, and to participate in earthquake engineering activities in co-operation with the International Network of Earthquake Engineering Centres, which is foreseen for implementation in the biennium.

(311) During the debate many speakers supported the training of engineers and technicians under Subprogramme VI.2.2. A large number of speakers commented that, in spite of the increased emphasis already given to technician training, the practical needs of science and technology institutions, particularly in developing countries, warranted even more action, especially at intermediate level. One delegate stressed the need to link this subprogramme with Programme V.5.

(312) Many delegates stressed the importance of activities leading to stronger links between technological education institutions and industries.

(313) One delegate urged that industrial safety be included in the training activities. Some delegates commented on the urgent need for equipment maintenance technicians and one considered that courses in this field should be considered within the broader context of equipment management.

(314) One delegate proposed the need for the forecasting of technical staff needs, and some speakers emphasized that high priority should be given to distance-learning systems and techniques.

(315) Subprogramme VI.2.3 on the development of regional and international co-operation was strongly supported by many delegates.

(316) Both the regional projects in South-East Asia and the African Network of Scientific and Technological Institutions (ANSTI) were identified as needing expansion. Several delegates stated that more resources should be provided for ANSTI so that it might be developed into a major regional project for Africa in the next biennium.

(317) One delegate commented on the potential for international co-operation of developments such as electronic mail and conferencing.

(318) The representative of the United Nations Development Organization (UNIDO) described the co-operation her organization had had with Unesco in technological activities, and expressed a hope that this co-operation would continue in areas such as the application of micro-electronics, building materials and earthquake-resistant buildings and energy information, as well as in technological activities for women. The representative of the Union of International Engineering Organizations (UIEO)

commended the co-operation of this Union with Unesco, and described some of its activities.

Programme VI.3: Research, training and international co-operation in key areas in science and technology; item 4.2: Setting up of an 'Intergovernmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme

(319) Many delegates expressed support for Programme VI.3 and noted that it embodied activities that are vital for development. It was noted that joint efforts in key areas in science and technology could contribute towards bridging a gap between developing and industrialized countries. All delegates expressed satisfaction with the general orientation of the proposed activities, although one felt that the whole programme might better fit into Major Programme X. Many delegates supported the emphasis placed on the training of specialists.

(320) Subprogramme VI.3.1 was discussed by the majority of speakers who considered it to be very important. Some delegates felt it necessary to define the activities under this subprogramme more accurately in order to avoid overlap with Major Programme VII.

(321) Several delegates from developing countries described the achievements and needs of their countries in this field. Regional co-operation in Latin America in informatics was described by one delegate who referred also to the CASTALAC II recommendations in this respect. One speaker stated that the informatics programme must use the most advanced results available.

(322) The majority of speakers underlined the importance of informatics for development, and its impact on society, be it developed or developing.

(323) Great emphasis was placed on the first action of the programme which involves the training of specialists as well as users while including informatics awareness activities for the decision-makers. Being persuaded of the general informatics environment of the future, some speakers insisted on the necessity to prepare children, from now on, for the rational utilization of informatics which they will have to face in their social and professional life. One delegate asked that a new target be added to paragraph 06303 in relation to this activity. Another delegate stressed that a major responsibility in providing the basic skills in electronic data processing (EDP) rests with teachers at all educational levels, and that the latter should be provided with teaching skills and teaching materials in EDP.

(324) Many delegates noted that research in informatics constituted an important means of transferring know-how and the application of technologies.

They remarked that the introduction of informatics at all levels of education, including elementary and secondary, would require relevant teacher training in informatics.

(325) A few speakers, while approving the subprogramme in general, expressed reservations on the usefulness of undertaking studies on the social consequences of informatics. But others felt that such studies would contribute significantly to the understanding of challenges as well as opportunities offered by informatics.

(326) The Commission discussed agenda item 4.2 (Setting-up of an 'Intergovernmental Informatics Programme' and of a committee to be responsible for co-ordinating that programme). The establishment of the Programme was enthusiastically welcomed by many speakers. One speaker expressed his doubt as to the need to create an intergovernmental programme in this field, although he felt that some computer science programmes should be conducted in Unesco, concentrating on the natural sciences and engineering aspects of the subject. Nevertheless, there was general expression of appreciation for the work of the Interim Intergovernmental Committee which, at its session in November 1984, had designed the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme and prepared the statutes of the organ that would be responsible for co-ordinating it. Some delegates urged that the Programme be well defined and adapted to the needs of Member States. The representative of the intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics spoke of the role which the IIP could play in solving problems and making good deficiencies in the field of informatics, and offered his organization's co-operation in this respect.

(327) Some speakers stated that their countries had already established institutional frameworks that would serve as focal points of the Intergovernmental Programme. Such focal points could carry out co-operative activities and the exchange of information. North-South and South-South, as well as regional co-operation would thus be encouraged.

(328) The fear of overlap between the Informatics Programme and the General Information Programme was expressed by some speakers, who suggested that any overlap be resolved at the level of the governing organs of the two programmes. In this regard, the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) was also mentioned. One delegate felt that a unit could be foreseen within Unesco to permit better co-ordination of all informatics actions of the Organization.

(329) The need to avoid duplication of effort with other intergovernmental organizations was emphasized by some speakers. Representatives of three intergovernmental organizations promised

their co-operation with the Informatics Programme in this respect.

(330) General satisfaction was expressed by a vast majority of delegates with Subprogramme VI.3.2, many of them emphasizing the need for promoting research and training, especially in the developing countries. Some countries expressed the view that more funds should be allocated to the subprogramme. Support was expressed by some delegates for establishing intergovernmental programmes and regional networks in biotechnology and co-operation in that field with other United Nations agencies. Some delegates offered the facilities of their countries to host Unesco's activities in different aspects of biotechnology. Two delegates referred to the regional scientific co-operation conducted by ten Member States in the South-East Asian Microbiology Network of Natural Products and expressed their government's disappointment at the omission of this network from Subprogramme VI.1.3

(331) Several delegates expressed interest in the proposals for the international network of Microbiological Resources Centres (MIRCENs) and two called for its expansion. Some delegates supported preliminary proposals for an intergovernmental programme in applied microbiology. One delegate indicated that such a mechanism could facilitate the twinning of research institutions in the developed and developing countries. Some delegates expressed their interest in specialized training courses, conferences or workshops and offered to host them. One of the delegates recalled Unesco's initiative in organizing the Seventh International Conference on the Global Impacts of Applied Microbiology for the benefit of scientists, especially from the developing countries.

(332) Two delegates, as well as the representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), drew attention to the co-operation with the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and its newly founded institutions in New Delhi and Trieste.

(333) The representative of the Arab League Educational Scientific and Culture Organization (ALECSO) expressed the need for joint ALECSO/Unesco activities in microbial biotechnology.

(334) The subject area of new and renewable sources of energy within Subprogramme VI.3.3 received support from many delegates, who referred to its importance in the developing world, and particularly to the least developed countries. Activities in promoting training activities, the development of pilot projects and the improvement of information flows on renewable energies were commended. Some delegates noted the respective importance of specific forms of energy sources such as wind power, biogas, biomass and solar energy. One

delegate felt that too much emphasis was being placed on solar energy at the expense of other forms of renewable energy.

(335) Some delegates cautioned against duplication of renewable energy activities with those of other United Nations agencies. The representative of UNIDO and some delegates made reference to the former's co-operation with Unesco in the development of the worldwide energy information network, the European Solar Energy Network and in the field of energy conservation.

(336) Some speakers recommended that more emphasis be given to projects rather than conferences and meetings, and urged that actions be concentrated on those few sources of new and renewable energies which showed real promise of success. The relevance of the social context within which such energy sources are to be utilized was discussed.

(337) In considering energy information networks, some delegates underlined the need to avoid overlap with the General Information Programme.

Reply of the representative of the Director-General

(338) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General expressed his gratitude for the well-informed and stimulating views that had been expressed and for the unanimous support shown by the Commission to Programmes VI.1, VI.2 and VI.3.

(339) The importance that so many countries attached to Major Programme VI as the main vehicle for Unesco's action in the basic sciences and engineering was noted. Emphasis placed on education and training by all delegates would be properly reflected in the implementation of the programmes.

(340) A number of themes had recurred during the discussion, including the need for additional concentration in some areas, the importance of scientific-industrial links, the value of regional co-operation and the need to help the least developed countries.

(341) Co-operation with ICSU and other non-governmental organizations had been widely endorsed and would be further developed, as would the Organization's relationship with United Nations bodies such as the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

(342) The work done by the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) had been well received, and the general support given to Unesco's international and regional networks in science was also noted with appreciation.

(343) The establishment of an Intergovernmental Informatics Programme had been supported by almost all speakers. Many delegates asked for close

co-ordination to be maintained between the new programme, the General Information Programme (PGI) and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

(344) Those countries which had offered their co-operation in the organizing of specific activities deserved the gratitude of the Organization, as

did those Member States who had already contributed their generous support to a number of programmes.

(345) All suggestions in connection with the programmes would be taken into consideration by the Director-General in the final drawing up of the work plan and in the implementation of the programmes.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 10 - MAJOR PROGRAMME VI:
THE SCIENCES AND THEIR APPLICATION TO DEVELOPMENT (PROGRAMME VI.4)

(346) Commission III devoted its eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth meetings to consideration of discussion unit 10 which covers one part of Major Programme VI: Programme VI.4 (Research, training and international co-operation in the social and human sciences). The corresponding section of document 23 C/5 (paragraphs 06401 to 06440) and the relevant parts of the proposed resolution (paragraph 06002) relating to Major Programme VI were considered, along with draft resolutions 23 C/DRs. 13, 58, 59, 75, 78 Rev., 140 and 288.

(347) The Chairman of the Commission made a short introductory statement indicating the parts of the work plan to be examined and providing the list of draft resolutions presented under unit 10.

Introduction by the representative
of the Director-General

(348) In his introduction, the representative of the Director-General underlined the major characteristics of the programme on social and human sciences: concentration through incorporating former Programme VI.5 into Programme VI.4, and decreasing the number of subprogrammes from eight to four; decentralization of regional activities; high priority given to strengthening national capabilities, with particular emphasis on training, as well as to regional and international co-operation.

(349) Programme VI.4, which aims at the fundamental development of the social and human sciences, displays a new structure, with four subprogrammes: Subprogramme VI.4.1, which incorporates the former Subprogramme VI.5.1; Subprogramme VI.4.2 and Subprogramme VI.4.3, both of which incorporate parts of the former Subprogrammes VI.5.2 and VI.5.3, and Subprogramme VI.4.4, which replaces the former Subprogramme VI.5.5.

(350) Subprogramme VI.4.1 (Strengthening of national training and research potential in the disciplines of social and human sciences) places the emphasis on advanced training in certain disciplines. There are also activities on research and exchange of knowledge

and information, as well as support to national social and human science institutions.

(351) The second subprogramme (Regional and subregional co-operation) aims at strengthening regional inter-governmental and non-governmental centres and organizations, as well as training, research, information and documentation networks. In regions where regional advisors are available, activities have been decentralized.

(352) International non-governmental organizations, particularly the International Social Science Council and its 14 member associations play a central role in activities under Subprogramme VI.4.3 (Development of inter-regional and international co-operation). They provide intellectual inputs to all aspects of the programme and participate actively in its implementation. Two major instruments for the international exchange of social science knowledge and information are located in this subprogramme: the International Social Science Journal and the Social and Human Science Documentation Centre, with its international social science data bank DARE.

(353) The final Subprogramme, VI.4.4 (Research, training and international co-operation concerning the status of women), receives first priority for the totality of its activities, aiming at developing new approaches in research, teaching and training in studies concerning women.

Debate on Programme VI.4

(354) Forty-eight delegates, and the representatives of one intergovernmental organization, Sistema Económico Latino Americano (SELA), and three non-governmental organizations: International Social Science Council (ISSC), International Federation of University Women (IFUW), and Association of Social Scientists of the Third World, participated in the debate. The speakers generally supported Programme VI.4, most recognizing that the new presentation marked an improvement in terms of coherence, relevance and balance between various subprogrammes. Some delegates

said that the concentration of activities should not result in the erosion of Programme VI.4

(355) Most of the speakers were of the opinion that the level of funding available for the development of the social and human sciences was less than satisfactory. In their views, future programmes should be better endowed, as the strengthening of the social sciences was needed so as to increase their capability to contribute to the solution of the problems facing Member States. Several delegates also said that in the allocation of funds to the various programmes of Major Programme VI, social and human sciences were at a disadvantage as compared to natural sciences; One delegate suggested that in the future, funds should be transferred from Programme VI.3 to VI.4. A speaker regretted the dispersion of social and human sciences between several Major Programmes.

(356) Some delegations said that social sciences should have relevance. Their endogenous character and relations to national and local cultures need to be elucidated. Several speakers put forward the idea that the social and human sciences should help in promoting democratic behaviour and customs, thereby facilitating the development of independent thinking and a stronger critical spirit. One delegate thought that this theme could be developed into regional and even international research programmes.

(357) Several delegates underlined the importance of closer links between the social and natural sciences in Major Programme VI. Some speakers asked for more interdisciplinary activities, while keeping the respective autonomy of the natural and social sciences. Some delegates said that in their view greater importance should be given in future programmes, to epistemological and methodological problems in the social and human sciences.

(358) Two delegates suggested that a meeting of experts of highest level be called in order to provide inputs for future social and human sciences programmes.

(359) One delegate was of the opinion that in Subprogramme VI.4.3, as it appears in document 23 C/5 Draft, staff costs as compared to programme funds, remained much too high.

(360) Some delegates, and the representative of a non-governmental organization found that philosophy was not adequately represented in Programme VI.4, even if it also appears elsewhere, in Subprogrammes VI.3.1 and VI.3.2, and several other major programmes.

Subprogramme VI.4.1: Strengthening of national training and research

potential in the disciplines of social and human sciences

(361) The majority of delegates who took the floor laid emphasis on the importance of developing national capabilities in social and human sciences. Several speakers declared that national development efforts would not be successful without stronger social and human sciences in Member States. Many speakers underlined the usefulness of the support provided to national training, research, information and documentation activities, under paragraph 06405, while some regretted that funds under this activity were not adequate.

(362) Several delegates supported the postgraduate training courses in various disciplines. A few delegates found that there were too many courses, leading to a dispersion of resources. One delegate said he would have preferred a training course in social administration and policy, instead of management sciences. Three delegates offered to host such courses in their respective countries. Another delegate would have preferred the decentralization of some of these courses. The representative of a non-governmental organization (International Social Science Council) expressed the opinion that the courses should be international in character, while aiming at the training of young scholars from developing countries. Two delegates said that each course should have participation from all regions. Certain delegates wished that future programmes contain a distinct component devoted to training in research methods and techniques. Another delegate suggested that, in the future, training courses in social science information and documentation should be organized.

Subprogramme VI.4.2: Regional and subregional co-operation

(363) The majority of the speakers approved the support given to regional activities, and particularly to regional centres and networks, while many regretted the inadequate level of funding. One delegate was of the opinion that while existing centres must be supported, priority in regional co-operation in social science research, training, information and documentation should be given to networks of institutions.

(364) Some delegates supported a further decentralization of, and further redeployment of staff to regional activities. They requested the strengthening of existing regional social sciences offices, and the establishment of new ones in other regions and subregions.

(365) Several delegates requested further support for such regional

intergovernmental and non-governmental social science centres or organizations as SELA, FLACSO, CLACSO, CODESRIA, CERDAS, ARCSS, AICARDES, AASSREC, ADIPA, the Vienna Centre and EADI. One delegate expressed the wish that in Asia and the Pacific, the regional network of social science information and documentation centres, as well as the postgraduate social sciences teaching and research network be established as soon as possible. Two delegates said that they hoped that close co-operation between the Vienna Centre and centres and networks in other regions would be continued by the Organization.

(366) Twelve delegates requested that Unesco support the activities of SELA, and particularly a regional pilot project on science, technology and society.

(367) Several other speakers spoke of the importance of regional information and documentation activities, and some of them requested that the activities mentioned in paragraph 06419 be given first priority.

(368) A majority of delegates were in favour of option 1, concerning CERDAS (Centre for the Co-ordination of Social Science Research and Documentation on Africa South of the Sahara) in paragraph 06414, and option 1 concerning ARCSS (Arab Regional Centre for Social Sciences), in paragraph 06417. As regards the latter, one delegate favoured option 2. In case option 1 was preferred he requested Unesco to provide ARCSS administrative support, in addition to support for the Centre's scientific activities.

(369) One delegate said that administrative support to regional centres, created with Unesco's assistance, should completely stop after a couple of years.

(370) Some delegates regretted that document 23 C/5 Draft abandoned the regional intergovernmental conferences for social and human sciences, foreseen in document 22 C/5. One delegate mentioned the proposed Unesco-UNDP project on the Regional Co-operative Programme in social sciences for development in Asia and the Pacific.

(371) Following the resolution on the promotion of social sciences adopted by CASTALAC II, one delegate requested that Unesco provide financial support to enable Latin American institutions or specialists to participate in the preparation of social sciences contributions to forthcoming CASTARAB II and CASTAFRICA II, so that the three regions would work together on the links to be established between social and natural sciences.

Subprogramme VI.4.3: Development of interregional and international co-operation

(372) The majority of speakers who addressed Subprogramme VI.4.3 supported

it, with certain specific comments. Several delegates emphasized the role in international co-operation of the International Social Science Council (ISSC) and its member associations, the International Council of Philosophy and Human Science (ICPHS), the Interregional Co-ordinating Committee of Development Associations (ICDA), the International Federation of Social Science Organizations (IFSSO), as well as the International Committee on Social Science Information and Documentation (ICSSID).

(373) As regards the subvention to the ISSC, a majority of delegates requested that it should be kept at the level set by the Executive Board at its 122nd session. One delegate said it should have remained at the level shown in paragraph 06425, while another speaker suggested that it might be further cut so that the reduction in ISSC's subvention be proportionate to that which affected ICSU. He added that the savings thus obtained could be transferred to Subprogramme VI.4.1. Another delegate said that while he agreed that social science activities at the national level should receive more funds, it was not proper that this be done at the expense of the ISSC or other non-governmental organizations.

(374) A few delegates were of the opinion that there should be no granting of such subventions to international non-governmental organizations without a more effective control of the General Conference on their spending. One delegate explained that while the issue of accountability and the evaluation of the results obtained by NGOs was by no means to be overlooked, it should not be used as an argument to question the intrinsic importance of these organizations. He added that NGOs constituted a worldwide network of social sciences, working in a decentralized manner. Instead of withdrawing, Unesco should confirm its place at the centre of this global network and provide leadership.

(375) One delegate said that ISSC and its disciplinary associations should ensure greater intellectual representativity in their membership. Some speakers supported the interregional social science co-operation between developing regions. Two speakers lent their support to ICPHS and the review Diogenes published by this non-governmental organization.

(376) A majority of delegates expressed their appreciation of the International Social Science Journal and preferred option 2 concerning the English and French editions of this periodical. Two speakers were in favour of option 1. Several delegates expressed the wish that the necessary means be found to continue the publication of the International Social Science Journal in other languages, and particularly the Chinese, Spanish, Arabic editions and selections. One delegate said that his country would joint its efforts to those

Programme Commissions

of the Organization so as to obtain funding for the continuation of the Spanish edition of this periodical.

(377) Certain delegates emphasized the importance of international co-operation for the establishment of data bases in developing regions, and requested that paragraph 06429 be given first priority. They also supported the activities of the Social and Human Science Documentation Centre (SSDC) and the DARE data bank, together with the directories it publishes. Some speakers asked that the actions in paragraph 06426(b) and (d) be shifted to first priority.

Subprogramme VI.4.4: Research, training and international co-operation concerning the status of women

(378) The majority of delegates who took the floor on this subprogramme expressed their appreciation, supporting the high priority given to its activities. Some of the speakers said that VI.4.4 should be given more funds. Many delegates stressed the importance of research on women in agricultural production, on family structure and the role of women in history.

(379) Some delegates stressed the necessity of evaluating the current status of studies concerning women. One delegate suggested that the activities under VI.4.4 be decentralized. Another speaker was of the opinion that this subprogramme should be more forward-looking.

Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(380) In his reply, the representative of the Director-General thanked the delegates who had taken the floor for their constructive suggestions and comments. He added that the Secretariat was attaching the greatest importance to inputs from social scientists outside the Organization.

(381) The overall structure of Programme VI.4 had been well received by the Commission, in all its components, with some specific comments.

(382) Many observations had been made on strengthening interdisciplinarity between social and natural sciences. Several speakers had commented on the respective weight of natural and social sciences in Major Programme VI, voicing the opinion that the social and human sciences should benefit from better funding.

(383) The issue of decentralization had been raised by some speakers as regards more particularly Subprogramme VI.4.2 but also VI.4.1 and VI.4.4. Efforts in this direction will continue.

(384) Certain delegates had pointed out the lack of activities on social science methods and techniques, and the place of philosophy which they consider

as inadequate. These suggestions will be carefully considered. In Subprogramme VI.4.1, while the proposed activities met with general approval, several delegates had said that in future the training courses should be better funded, and also cover topics such as social science methods, as well as information and documentation. The proposed training courses will benefit from international participation, with high level faculty and students from all regions.

(385) In Subprogramme VI.4.2 emphasis was put on networking in teaching, research and information documentation. Concerning CERDAS and ARCSS, a majority of delegates had expressed preference for option 1.

(386) As regards international and interregional co-operation, non-governmental organizations such as ISSC play an important role. Certain delegates had expressed concern about the insufficient participation of Third World scholars in the activities of these non-governmental organizations. Unesco has been trying to increase such a participation and will continue to do so. A majority of speakers approved the continuation of close co-operation with the ISSC.

(387) Concerning the International Social Science Journal, option 2 was chosen, and the Secretariat will continue the negotiations with commercial publishers, so as to be able to start producing the International Social Science Journal through co-publication as of 1986. In response to the request by several delegates that language editions other than English and French not be stopped, efforts will be made to try to find ways of continuing them, although present budgetary constraints make this task difficult.

(388) Subprogramme VI.4.4 received general approval, with certain specific suggestions.

(389) The comments and suggestions made by the members of the Commission III have been extremely useful for the Secretariat which will make every effort to take them into account.

(390) At the end of the debate, a delegate moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman of Commission III for the excellent manner in which he conducted the debate. He added that the positive results obtained in this Commission showed that the General Conference could be effective, but that in terms of magnitude it fell somewhat short of what the United Kingdom believed could have been done; he therefore wished to have recorded that the fact that the United Kingdom did not oppose consensus should not be taken to indicate complete satisfaction. Indeed he expected that the Committee of Chairmen would be able to find further savings from less important activities for reallocation on the lines indicated in 23 C/DR.143 and as provided for by the decision of the Bureau

recorded in Journal No. 9 and as proposed by the Chairman himself in his

explanation of the treatment of 23 C/DR.143.

RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO MAJOR PROGRAMMES VI, IX AND X
AND ITEMS 4.2 AND 6.5

Unit 14

(a) Proposed resolution in document 23 C/5 Draft and in document 23 C/82

(391) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 9.1 as amended by draft resolutions 23 C/DR.134 and 181 (23 C/Resolution 9.1). It also recommended that the General Conference adopt the proposed resolution appearing in paragraph 3 of document 23 C/82 (23 C/Resolution 9.2).

(b) Draft resolutions considered for adoption by the General Conference

(392) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.282 (23 C/Resolution 6.4).

(c) Draft resolutions concerning the work plan and having no financial implications

(393) The Commission took note of draft resolutions 23 C/DRs. 31, 107, 113, 237, 242, 252 and of the Director-General's comments.

(394) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.109, of the comments of the Director-General and of the proposal by one delegate that the spirit of this draft resolution should be extended to other countries with small-scale economies.

(d) Draft resolutions with financial implications and which equally concern the work plan

(395) As regards draft resolution 23 C/DR.240, the Commission recommended that the activity described in paragraph 09215 (b) be upgraded to first priority with a corresponding budget of \$56,000 to be taken out of the allocations to activities under paragraphs 09215 (c) and 09223 (b), with \$20,000 out of the first, and \$36,000 out of the second.

(396) Because of the reduced resources allocated to this activity appearing in paragraph 09215 (b), as compared with those in document 23 C/5 Draft. The Commission recommended that the symposium mentioned in this paragraph should not be organized. It also recommended that the modalities of implementation of the other above-mentioned activities, with reduced resources, be reviewed, and that those resources be allocated on an absolute

priority basis to activities executed directly by participating Member States.

(397) As regards draft resolution 23 C/DR.143, the Commission recommended that activities referred to in the draft resolution concerning Subprogrammes IX.1.1 and IX.1.2 be maintained under first priority, with the following allocations:

Activity under subparagraph 09105 (f): \$61,000, that is without reduction;

Activity under subparagraph 09207 (e): \$20,000, that is with a reduction of \$56,000;

Activity under subparagraph 09208 (a): \$40,000, that is with a reduction of \$29,000;

Activity under subparagraph 09208 (b): \$11,000, that is without reduction.

(398) The Commission recommended the review, as necessary, of the modalities of implementation of the activities appearing in paragraphs 09207 (e) and 09208 (a), with reduced resources, as compared with those in the draft 23 C/5. It also recommended that the savings thus obtained and amounting to \$85,000 be transferred to Major Programmes VI and X. (For the decision concerning this transfer see under unit 15.)

(e) Recommendations concerning the work plan

(399) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve option 1 contained in action 1 of Subprogramme IX.1.2, and consequently that the publication of the journal Impact of Science on Society be continued.

(400) The Commission took note of the work plan for Major Programme IX as contained in paragraphs 09102-09119 and 09202-09233 of document 23 C/5 as amended, and taking into account the recommendations of the Executive Board set out in document 23 C/6. It also took note of the budget provisions for Programmes IX.1 and IX.2 contained in paragraphs 09101 and 09201 as amended.

(401) The Commission took note of documents 23 C/81, 23 C/82, 23 C/83, 23 C/83 Corrigendum and Addendum, and 23 C/INF.9 which pertained to Major Programme IX.

(402) The Commission took note of the proposed operational and participation programmes and of their budget provisions in Major Programme IX found in paragraphs 09226-09303.

(403) The Commission then recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme IX the budget provision of \$5,653,300 in

paragraph 09001 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the Budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$2,415,200 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this Major Programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(404) As regards item 6.5 concerning the possibility, desirability and relevance of adopting a general recommendation, declaration or convention on science and technology, the Commission, having noted documents 23 C/30 and 23 C/INF.8, recommended that the Director-General follow the recommendation of the Executive Board (121 EX/Decision 5.3.1) set out in paragraph 3 of document 23 C/30.

Unit 15

(a) Proposed resolutions in document 23 C/5 Draft

(405) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 10.1 as amended by draft resolution 23 C/DR.135 (23 C/Resolution 10.1).

(b) Draft resolutions considered for adoption by the General Conference

(406) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.282 (23 C/Resolution 6.4) (already mentioned in unit 14).

(407) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.275 was withdrawn, the Commission having expressed its view on the matter pertaining to it in the following terms:

'Commission III, in connection with the need to preserve the marine environment, especially in enclosed and semi-enclosed seas, recalled resolution 10.7 approved by the twenty-second session of the General Conference and the relevant principles developed by the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment. The Commission reiterated the appeal to Member States to endeavour to respect the marine environment, taking into account the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the spirit of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Commission recommended to the Director-General that Unesco should further develop activities aimed at promoting scientific studies and pollution monitoring required for management and protection measures of enclosed and semi-enclosed seas revealing increasing levels of pollution, originating from

spills from oil fields and from oil-carrying tankers, and encourage the co-operation in these studies with other appropriate international and regional organizations'.

(408) The Commission took note of the comments of the Director-General on draft resolution 23 C/DR.276.

(c) Draft resolutions concerning the work plan and having no financial implications

(409) The Commission took note of draft resolutions 23 C/DRs.92, 97, 102, 103, 104, 111, 112, 113, 120, 121, 182, 185 and 286 and of the respective comments by the Director-General.

(d) Draft resolutions with financial implications and which equally concern the work plan

(410) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.2 and recommended that the activities mentioned in this draft resolution, which are included under second priority in document 23 C/5 Draft be considered for funding from the \$250,000 global reserve.

(411) The Commission took note of draft resolutions 23 C/DRs.8 and 9 and recommended that the two activities proposed be included in the work plan, on the understanding that the sponsors will provide further extra-budgetary funds. The Commission recommended that \$10,000 be allocated for each activity to be taken from \$223,500 provisionally attributed to Commission III from the \$1 million Reserve.

(412) One delegate, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, indicated that he would not formally oppose the consensus on draft resolutions 23 C/DRs.8 and 9 but wished to record his disagreement with the underlying approach.

(413) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.12 and recommended that \$143,500 be allocated to the activities proposed in this draft resolution, to be taken from the \$223,500 provisionally allocated to Commission III.

(414) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.39 and recommended that \$9,500 be allocated to the activities proposed in this draft resolution, to be taken from the \$250,000 reserved for draft resolutions involving expenditure of \$10,000 or less.

(415) As regards draft resolution 23 C/DR.143, the Commission decided that the activity in paragraph 10106 (b) be upgraded to first priority with an allocation of \$45,000 to be taken from the \$85,000 savings made within Major Programme IX. If economies were to be found in other parts of the Programme of the Organization, outside of Science, the Commission recommended that they be used to upgrade specific activities in Major Programmes X and VI.

(416) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.204, and recommended that the Director-General make every effort to ensure the continuation of the Chinese version of the journal Nature and Resources within the resources available in 1986-1987.

(417) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.258 with the comments of the Director-General.

(418) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.261 and recommended that preparations be made for the proposed conference during 1986-1987, on the understanding that the conference will be held in 1988 and be included in document 24 C/5. It also recommended that \$25,000 be allocated to this preparation and be taken from the \$250,000 Global Reserve.

(419) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.262, and of the comments of the Director-General.

(420) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.271 and recommended that the Director-General take into account if funds become available.

(421) The Commission took note of the work plan for Major Programme X as contained in paragraphs 10102-10923 of document 23 C/5 as amended, and taking into account the recommendations of the Executive Board in document 23 C/6. It also took note of the individual budget provisions for Programmes X.I to X.9 as amended.

(422) The Commission took note of the extra-budgetary and participation programme and of their respective budget provisions as found in paragraphs 10918-10923.

(423) The Commission also took note of documents 23 C/77, 23 C/78, 23 C/79, 23 C/80, 23 C/86 and 23 C/INF.22 + Addendum.

(424) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme X the budget provision of \$26,209,100 in paragraph 10001 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the Budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$7,865,200 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(425) The Commission recommended that savings from other major programmes should be allocated to Major Programmes X and VI.

Unit 9

(a) Proposed resolutions in document 23 C/5 Draft

(426) The Commission recommended

that the General Conference adopt operative paragraphs 6(a) (b) and (c) of the proposed resolution as amended by draft resolutions 23 C/DRs.110 and 140 with the comments of the Director-General (23 C/Resolution 6.1).

(427) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt proposed resolution 6.2 (23 C/Resolution 6.2).

(b) Draft resolutions considered for adoption by the General Conference

(428) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt draft resolutions 23 C/DR.282 (already appearing in units 14 and 15) and 23 C/DR.142 (23 C/Resolutions 6.4 and 6.3 respectively).

(c) Draft resolutions concerning the work plan and having no financial implications

(429) The Commission took note of draft resolutions 23 C/DRs.34, 34 Corr., 49, 62, 74, 79, 81, 97, 100, 111, 113, 118, 183, 184 Rev., 200 and 203 and the Director-General's comments.

(430) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.179 was amended by its authors. Its operative paragraph becomes 'Invites the Director-General to inform the competent organization of the advisability of continuing studies designed to permit easier access to works protected by copyrights and patents'. The Commission took note of this draft resolution as amended and of the comments of the Director-General.

(d) Draft resolutions with financial implications and which equally concern the work plan

(431) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.11 Rev., and recommended an allocation of \$60,000 to the activities proposed in this draft resolution, to be taken from the \$223,500 provisionally allocated to the Commission.

(432) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.32 and of the comments of the Director-General concerning, in particular, its non-receivability.

(433) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.33 and recommended that the activities mentioned in this draft resolution be maintained under second priority and be considered if funds from the \$250,000 global reserve become available.

(434) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.52 and recommended that the activity concerned be maintained under second priority but that it either be kept in mind during the execution of the programme or be considered under the participation programme.

(435) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.101 and of the

Programme Commissions

comments of the Director-General.

(436) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.143_e and recommended that activity in 06121 (e) be upgraded to first priority with an allocation of \$40,000 to be taken from the \$85,000 saving made within Major Programme IX.

(437) The Commission recommended that no action be taken concerning draft resolutions 23 C/DR.260 and 265. The Commission took note of document 23 C/14.

(438) The Commission took note of the work plan as contained in paragraphs 06102-06336 of document 23 C/5 as amended taking into account the recommendations of the Executive Board set out in document 23 C/6. It also took note of individual budget provisions for Programmes VI.1, VI.2 and VI.3 contained in paragraphs 06101, 06201 and 06301, as amended.

(439) Finally the Commission congratulated the Director-General on the valuable information contained in document 23 C/11 concerning the achievements and difficulties of the three Major Science Programmes during 1984-1985, and invited him to continue his efforts in providing reports to the General Conference on the substance and the effectiveness of these programmes.

(440) The Commission also recommended that savings from other major programmes should be allocated to Major Programmes X and VI.

Unit 10

(a) Proposed resolution in document 23 C/5 Draft and in document 23 C/6

(441) The Commission approved operative paragraph 6 (d) of proposed resolution 6.1 and recommended that the General Conference adopt this resolution as amended (23 C/Resolution 6.1).

(b) Draft resolutions considered for adoption by the General Conference

(442) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.288 (23 C/Resolution 6.5).

(c) Draft resolutions concerning the work plan having no financial implications

(443) The Commission took note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.140. It decided to approve option 2 proposed in paragraph 06427. The Commission also decided to approve option 1 in paragraph 06414. As far as the options mentioned in paragraph 06417 are concerned, the Commission agreed to approve option 1. One

delegate intervened indicating that his country would have preferred option 2.

(444) The Commission was informed that draft resolution 23 C/DR.78 Rev., was examined in Commission IV which took a decision on this draft resolution.

(d) Draft resolutions with financial implications and which equally concern the work plan

(445) As regards draft resolutions 23 C/DR.58, 59 and 75, proposing upgrading of the activities respectively described in paragraphs 06419 (i), 06426 (b) and (d), the Commission decided to maintain these activities in the category of second priority as no compensatory savings are available. The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of these draft resolutions inviting the Director-General to make all possible efforts to respond to the concerns expressed in these draft resolutions within the budget available.

(446) Finally, with regard to draft resolution 23 C/DR.13, the Commission decided to follow the recommendations made by the Executive Board as reflected in document 23 C/6 and, in the light of the discussions, not to reduce further the subvention proposed to the International Social Science Council (ISSC).

(447) Subsequently, the Commission took note of the work plan for Programme VI.4 as contained in paragraphs 06402 to 06443 of document 23 C/5 as amended by the decisions taken by the Commission and taking into account the recommendations by the Executive Board set out in document 23 C/6.

(448) Furthermore, the Commission took note of the budget provisions for Programme VI.4 as contained in paragraph 06401 as amended.

(449) The Commission took note of the proposed operational and participation programmes and of their budget provisions in Major Programme VI found in paragraphs 06441-06504.

(450) The Commission then recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme VI the budget provision of \$22,765,200 in paragraph 06001 of document 23 C/5, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the Budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$8,844,600 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

D. Report of Commission IV

Introduction

- Examination of item 3.5
and of item 4.1
- Discussion Unit 4 - Major Programme III: Communication in the service of man
 - The right to communicate
- Examination of item 3.5
- Discussion Units 11 and 12 - Major Programme VII: Information systems and access to knowledge
- Examination of item 6.6
- Desirability of adopting an international instrument on the protection of the cultural heritage against natural disasters and their consequences
- Examination of item 4.3
- Jerusalem and the implementation of 22 C/Resolution 11.8
- Examination of item 4.4
- World Decade for Cultural Development: Draft Plan of Action submitted by the Director-General
- Examination of item 3.5
- Discussion Unit 16 - Major Programme XI: Culture and the future (Programme XI.1)
- Examination of item 3.5
- Discussion Unit 17 - Major Programme XI: Culture and the future (Programmes XI.2, XI.3 and XI.4)
- Annex to the report of Commission IV
- Report of the Working Group on the draft resolutions of Discussion Unit 4 and item 4.1

INTRODUCTION

(1) At its first meeting, Commission IV elected Mr Georges-Henri Dumont (Belgium) as its Chairman by acclamation.

(2) At the Commission's second meeting, and on the proposal of the Nominations Committee, the four Vice-Chairmen and the Rapporteur were also elected by acclamation. The Bureau of Commission IV was made up as follows: Chairman: Mr Georges-Henri Dumont (Belgium); Vice-Chairmen: Mr Paul Ansah (Ghana); Mrs Marie-Denise Jean (Haiti); Mr Ananda W.P. Guruge (Sri Lanka); Mr Hicham Haddad (Syrian Arab Republic); Rapporteur: Mr Helmuth Tautz (German Democratic Republic).

(3) The Commission subsequently adopted the timetable of work contained in document 23 C/COM.IV/1.

(4) After the discussion units referred to the Commission had been introduced by the representatives of the Director-General and the Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme, the Commission moved on to consider the following items of its agenda:

Unit 4 - Major Programme III: Communication in the service of man;

Programme III.1: Studies on communication;

Programme III.2: Free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information; increased exchanges of news and programmes;

Programme III.3: Development of communication; and

Item 4.1 - The right to communicate;

Units 11 and 12 - Major Programme VII: Information systems and access to knowledge;

Programme VII.1: Improvement of access to information: Modern technologies, standardization and interconnection of information systems;

Programme VII.2: Infrastructures,

policies and training required for the processing and dissemination of specialized information;

Programme VII.3: Unesco information and documentation systems and services;

Item 6.6 - Desirability of adopting an international instrument on the protection of the cultural heritage against natural disasters and their consequences;

Item 4.3 - Jerusalem and the implementation of 22 C/Resolution 11.8;

Item 4.4 - World Decade for Cultural Development: Draft Plan of Action submitted by the Director-General;

Unit 16 - Major Programme XI: Culture and the future;

Programme XI.1: Cultural heritage

Unit 17 - Major Programme XI: Culture and the future;

Programme XI.2: Cultural identity and intercultural relations;

Programme XI.3: Creation and creativity;

Programme XI.4: Cultural development and cultural policies.

(5) From Monday, 21 October to Friday, 1 November, the Commission devoted 20 meetings to consideration of the items on its agenda.

(6) Each discussion unit comprised four parts:

- Presentation of discussion unit by the representative of the Director-General;
- General debate on discussion unit;
- Reply by the representative of the Director-General;
- Recommendations of the Commission to the General Conference. Three hundred and thirty-two representatives of Member States and Associate Member States, and 36 observers from international governmental and non-governmental organizations took part in the general debate.

(7) The Commission's report comprises different sections corresponding to the major programmes that were discussed under the various discussion units, and to a number of related agenda items.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 4 - MAJOR PROGRAMME III:
COMMUNICATION IN THE SERVICE OF MAN, AND OF ITEM 4.1 -
THE RIGHT TO COMMUNICATE

(8) Commission IV devoted seven meetings, on 21, 22, 23 and 24 October 1985, to a discussion of Unesco's programme on communication, combining in one debate:

(a) Discussion unit 4 on Major Programme III (Communication in the service of man) of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987; and

(b) Item 4.1 of the agenda (Report by the Director-General on the right to communicate).

(9) The Chairman of the Commission asked the delegates to present in their speeches the draft resolutions proposed by their countries on the matters submitted to the Commission for its consideration.

(10) The Acting Assistant Director-

General of the Communication Sector introduced Major Programme III and item 4.1 of the agenda, which was the subject of document 23 C/13. On the latter item, he first noted that, in accordance with resolution 3.2 adopted by the general Conference at its twenty-second session and pursuant to the decisions taken by the Executive Board at its 120th session, Unesco's action on the 'right to communicate' had, in the current biennium, consisted basically in preparing a summary of the results of previous work in that field and of the results of a survey of the legal aspects of communication problems, carried out with the assistance of intergovernmental and non-governmental professional associations.

(11) The three objectives of that survey had been to identify the possible lines of emphasis of Unesco's future action in the field, to establish possible relationships between the right to communicate and existing human rights, and lastly to identify the means whereby a well-conceived right to communicate could promote freedom of information. He noted that the great variety of the views expressed (summarized in paragraphs 25 to 29 of document 23 C/13) showed that the theoretical and practical scope of that right still needed clarification. He then invited the Commission to take a decision on the future of the studies on the right to communicate, set out in paragraph 03106 of the draft programme and budget.

(12) The Acting Assistant Director-General then referred to the Executive Board's guidelines for the preparation of the draft major programme, including those contained in paragraphs 24 to 31 and paragraphs 53 to 64 of the decisions 4.1 adopted by the Board respectively at its 120th and 121st sessions. Those guidelines related essentially to the need to maintain the previous structure and balance between reflection and action that had marked Major Programme III, to focus research on collating work already accomplished, to give priority to operational activities and the strengthening of IPDC, to merge activities for the promotion of books and reading, and to associate non-governmental organizations more closely with Unesco's activities in the field of communication - all in the context of Unesco's contribution to the establishment of a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process. Like all the other major programmes in document 23 C/5, the major programme on 'Communication in the service of man' responded to the concern for programme concentration, differentiated presentation by priorities, and more concise wording.

(13) So far as the budgetary aspect of the major programme was concerned, there had been an almost total freezing of the budgetary provisions as compared with the previous biennium, the amount involved being distributed as follows: 6.3 per cent for the studies and research programme, 17.1 per cent for the news exchange programme, 63.8 per cent for the programme for the development of communication, and 12.8 per cent for the participation programme. Extra-budgetary resources from UNDP, funds-in-trust, IPDC, etc., to a total amount expected to exceed in absolute terms that of the regular programme, were to be added to those provisions for carrying out activities, some three-quarters of which were ranked as first priority in the priority listing that the Director-General had had to draw up in consequence of the budgetary restrictions.

(14) The Acting Assistant Director-General pointed out, furthermore, that for purposes of decentralization, nearly 30 per cent of the projects were administered away from Headquarters, that the bulk of the budget for Major Pro-

gramme III (over 90 per cent, including all sources of financing) was allocated to operational development activities and that the periodic report on the state of communication in the world should provide Member States with full and up-to-date information about existing needs and resources, thus making it possible to establish a more secure basis for any action for development. The important role of non-governmental organizations was stressed in connection with studies that Unesco might entrust to them.

(15) Lastly, the Acting Assistant Director-General referred to the concept of a new world information and communication order in the exact terms adopted by Unesco at the twenty-second session of its General Conference, namely, as an evolving and continuous process. The worldwide growth of relations today explained why the demand for balance in the flow of communications was more evident among the countries of the South, whereas the North seemed to be a focus of the reactions of fear. He concluded by saying, however, that Unesco's task was in fact to overturn the barriers of mistrust, which were raised only when communication was atrophied.

(16) The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication, Mr Gunnar Garbo, introducing document 23 C/74, said that he proposed firstly to describe how the IPDC had evolved in practical terms in the four years since its establishment. Up to now, the IPDC had financed 115 communication projects in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, the Arab States, Latin America and the Caribbean out of its Special Account, of which 65 were national projects. One-third of these projects concerned Africa south of the Sahara. Further, the IPDC had approved 60 projects for financing outside its Special Account. Of these some projects have been beneficiaries of funds-in-trust support.

(17) Mr Garbo stated that IPDC support had been directed at developing regional exchanges of news and programmes. PANA, ANN, ALASEI and FANA were now fully operational. Secondly, the IPDC had supported broadcasting training primarily through regional institutions like the AIBD, KIMC and ASBU Training Centre. It had also supported ABU, CBU, ASBU and URTNA. Those initiatives had contributed to increasing the flow of information generated by the South. Thirdly, the IPDC had financed national projects covering a wide range of media activities. Fourthly, the IPDC had developed an extensive training programme based on offers made by Member States to the Council. Over 350 trainees had benefited from such offers.

(18) Referring to the working methods of the IPDC, Mr Garbo said that the IPDC Secretariat had to rely on other units of the Communication Sector, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and professional institutions in recipient countries for project preparation, execution and evaluation. Emphasizing the IPDC decision to rely on professional institutions in recipient countries,

Mr Garbo said that this was a 'crucial element in what one might call the IPDC philosophy' and that there was 'no reason why a project officer of an international organization - be that officer stationed at headquarters or in the region - should manage a project which may just as competently be executed by a local institution'. He said that in Africa, Asia and South America the IPDC was frequently dealing with highly competent communication organizations. Leaving project implementation to such institutions on a contract basis reduced cumbersome procedures. Even more importantly, this contributed to the building-up of the management capacity of those institutions.

(19) In spite of that, he stressed that the IPDC 'had got all the support which we need from the Director-General, the Assistant Director-General for Communication and their staff. As Chairman of the IPDC I have received a service from the Communication Sector of Unesco which is definitely not inferior to the professional standard I am used to expecting in my own country. This is an important pre-condition for success'. Another aspect of the IPDC model was that an intergovernmental council of elected representatives had the task of implementing the objectives of the programme. Mr Garbo stressed that this representative intergovernmental body had proved that it could work productively and efficiently.

(20) Turning to current deficiencies of the IPDC, he said that it needed to improve and firmly establish its evaluation procedures, not least with regard to the examination and preparation of project proposals before submission to the Council. Secondly, he said that the IPDC's record was not wholly satisfactory when it came to promoting women's participation in the media. Until the 6th session, there was not a single IPDC project which had women as its main beneficiaries. The IPDC council had since then launched a special project for the career development of women broadcasters in Africa but much more needed to be done.

(21) Another difficulty was the preference of some Member States for funds-in-trust and aid-in-kind instead of making contributions to the Special Account. Though even those offers were very welcome, an increase in the Special Account was necessary if the Council were to fashion a programme consistent with the main objectives of IPDC. IPDC still lacked a satisfactory basis for performing its functions of co-ordination and information in the field of international communication development.

(22) Finally, the Chairman said that despite many difficulties, the IPDC had shown that a genuine multilateral initiative may succeed in the middle of a general crisis of multilateralism. He appealed to the representatives on the Commission to inform their governments of the need to give the IPDC the resources it needed to carry on with the job.

(23) During the discussion devoted to

the examination of unit 4 and item 4.1, the delegates of 74 Member States and the representatives of one intergovernmental organization (ALECSO) and 12 international non-governmental organizations took the floor.

(24) For the sake of consistency and clarity, the discussion in the Commission is reported below in six parts. The first part is an introduction and contains general considerations relating to all of Major Programme III. The next three parts deal with each programme of Major Programme III and cover successively: (a) studies on communication (Programme III.1); (b) free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information; increased exchanges of news and programmes (Programme III.2); and (c) development of communication including books and matters relating to IPDC (Programme III.3). The right to communicate is covered in part five. The sixth and last part deals with decisions taken on draft resolutions relating to Major Programme III, Programmes 1 to 3, and those relating to item 4.1 of the agenda.

General considerations

(25) Despite the differences in opinion expressed on the major communication problems and the way in which studies or implementation should be tackled, the delegates maintained in their discussions a firm determination to place emphasis on points of convergence rather than on those of friction. This approach was considered by most delegates as an encouraging sign.

(26) In discussing Major Programme III, several delegates expressed their commitment to Unesco and its Constitution; its central and important role in the field of communication was particularly stressed. One of them recalled United Nations resolutions which confirmed this role and urged 'that the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned should give Unesco adequate support and assistance in the field of information and communication'. Another delegate considered that Unesco's role in this field was irreplaceable, while a third speaker stated that it had been always the unshakeable conviction of her government, shared by the professional circles in her country, that Unesco was the branch of the United Nations family that should have primary responsibility for international co-operation in the field of communication at the intergovernmental level. 'In other words', she continued, 'the role of Unesco is essential. Neither the Information Committee of the United Nations, nor, for instance, the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space has the central position which Unesco, according to its Constitution, occupies in the field of communication generally'.

(27) The efforts the Organization had made since its inception to promote the development of communication infrastructures received the appreciation of many delegates. Others commended its role

in supporting the call for a new world information and communication order, more just and more equitable. Specific reference was made to more recent achievements, such as the setting-up of the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC) and the unanimous adopting of the Declaration of Fundamental Principles Concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War, as well as the report of the International Commission for the Study of Communication Problems, popularly known as the 'MacBride Report'. In this regard, some delegates deplored the unjustified press attacks to which the Organization was subjected, especially in the recent period.

(28) In emphasizing that Unesco's role, as enunciated in its Constitution, was the 'unrestricted pursuit of objective truth' and the 'free exchange of ideas and knowledge', a number of speakers stressed that Unesco was determined to keep in mind the basic objectives of its founding fathers and that a new world information and communication order was perfectly in line with its ideals, while others expressed the fear that the values of the Constitution were in danger of being forgotten. Speaking of the image of the Organization in his own country, one speaker said that the press was at best sceptical about Unesco, and in many cases deeply hostile to it. They saw it not as a body which would improve the international environment in which they worked, but as an organization determined to dictate to them what they should publish or write. A representative of a non-governmental organization warned that prescribing a role for the press to play would bring the Organization new crises, would make more States reassess their membership and would generally diminish the prestige of Unesco.

(29) Different speakers were critical of what they described as the weakening position of Unesco with regard to reflection on contemporary communication problems. Some delegates cautioned against converting Unesco into a technical development agency. It was said that some wanted Unesco to implement individual, often small, projects instead of analysing wide-scale problems in the field of communication and seeking wise solutions that took into account the international environment and the specificities of different countries and regions.

(30) The discussion once more showed that communication had for the last 15 years been one of the most delicate areas and key topics of Unesco's programme. Many delegates acknowledged that this field was controversial by nature, as it was always charged with ideological values and statements of position. The importance of continuing the dialogue on communication issues in Unesco's forum was, however, stressed by most of the delegates. The debate over the call for a new world information and communication order, in particular, was regarded by

several speakers, some of them from industrialized countries, as a useful period of sensitization and education. But one delegate considered it a sterile experience while a few others noted a taint of the bias of political controversy which had, according to another delegate, dogged the Organization in recent years and which had undermined public confidence in Unesco. In that connection, several delegates both from developed and developing countries, urged that it was time to cool the rhetoric and stop preaching.

(31) The responsible and moderate tone that had generally characterized the discussion on Major Programme III was noted by a number of speakers. While confirming that his delegation would not be party to any attempt to sweep the real problems and contradictions under the carpet, a speaker stressed, however, that all parties should continue to exchange views with each other. Against this background, many delegates greatly appreciated the efforts the Secretariat had put into the elaboration of the Programme which, according to one speaker, 'needed a high level of diplomatic skill, a developed sense of empathy and keen eyes for the points of possible compromises'.

(32) The majority of delegates commended Major Programme III and considered that it was generally acceptable as it had sharply concentrated on the concerns of developing countries. Various speakers found it clear, realistic and free from bias and a representative of a non-governmental organization considered that the programme was orienting Unesco's work to a more positive agenda, to what might be called the 'missing agenda' in this field. Major Programme III was seen by some as a suitable instrument to bring about in a practical way the process of a new world information and communication order. One speaker noted that it honestly reflected the diversity of conditions and standpoints and plurality of ideas and environments. Another speaker recognized that the programme contained some improvements over those of previous biennia. Others appreciated the considerable progress which had been made towards programme concentration.

(33) According to one speaker, there was room for imaginative linkages between Major Programme III and other programmes concerned with informatics, education, information, science and technological policies and training in Member States. Such linkages and co-ordination were at present not apparent and they should not require additional resources. In discussing the details of Major Programme III, several delegates were critical of one part of the programme or another, while one of them stated that his delegation would submit a 'list of objections', to the Chairman of the Commission. Another delegate observed that the Work Plan lacked clarity and that that explained the relatively large number of draft resolutions proposing amendments. Other delegates said that a great deal now depended on how the Work Plan would be carried out. One of those speakers said that for the Organization

to be true to its universality, it should ensure that its programme was executed in a balanced way by all socio-economic systems on the basis of just and equitable geographical distribution and participation. The general feeling which emanated from several interventions was that no country would be fully satisfied with the programme and that compromise was imperative for joint action and co-operation.

(34) The sharpest conflict of views with regard to Major Programme III was on whether it reflected a balance between reflection and action and whether it had been a real interpretation of the Medium-Term Plan. While some speakers agreed that this balance had been achieved and the spirit of the Medium-Term Plan had been respected, others, although recognizing the financial limitations and the need for concentration which restricted the scope of the programme, nevertheless regretted that the C/5 did not reflect Man's philosophy in an adequate way any more. One of them asked what the draft of the programme amounted to. 'It practically abandons the further study of the conceptual basis of a new "international" information order', he said, wondering how Unesco could fulfil the task which it is mandated to undertake if it proposed to conduct that process without a concept.

(35) To illustrate that assertion, a third speaker noted the dearth of activities to follow up the 1978 Declaration on the mass media while another drew attention to the notion of democratization of communication, which used to be a 'key concept' of the Medium-Term Plan and the 'MacBride Report', and said that it was entirely missing in the 23 C/5. He also regretted that the studies undertaken by the expert group convened by the Director-General to discuss that issue had never been published. He further recalled the 82 recommendations contained in the 'MacBride Report', and noted that it was most difficult to find trace of them in the 23 C/5. Yet another speaker arrived at the conclusion that it was both necessary and feasible to harmonize the proposed programme and the Medium-Term Plan without necessitating an increase in the proposed budget.

(36) A number of speakers were critical of the 'so-called balance' between activities involving study and reflection on the one hand, and operational activities on the other. Some delegates maintained that establishing a balance between reflection and action should be considered a basic objective by an international organization that was set up in order to make an indispensable contribution, primarily in the intellectual sphere, to co-operation among nations in solving the crucial problems of mankind. A representative of a non-governmental organization observed that a careful reading of Major Programme III showed that reflection and studies on various aspects of communication made up no more than about 5 per cent of the budget of the Sector of Communication in Unesco, while 95 per

cent of resources were allocated to predominantly operational activities. He asked whether this was really 'balance' and said that an honest journalist would not dare to use that word in such an obvious case of imbalance.

(37) Several speakers emphasized, however, that Major Programme III was a faithful and coherent reflection of the decisions taken by the Executive Board at its 120th and 121st sessions, of the balance the Board aimed at, and the priorities established. While some delegates said that they could live with the consensus reached at the Executive Board, they also supported the efforts to enhance and enlarge that consensus. One speaker, on behalf of several delegations, reminded the Commission that the Medium-Term Plan, adopted by consensus at the fourth extraordinary session of the General Conference still remained the basic consensus and that there should be no contradiction between that Plan and the decisions of the Executive Board.

(38) In recalling the decisions of the Executive Board, many delegates placed emphasis squarely on the action-oriented aspects of Major Programme III, where the encouragement of the growth of developing countries' own capacities was considered as the main line of the programme. Resources, therefore, should be concentrated above all on Programme III.3, Development of Communication. Speakers from the developing, as well as the developed, countries stressed the importance of a political will and determination on the part of Member States, especially in the 'North', as a prerequisite of future action regarding promotion of communications structures, means and practices. Several speakers alluded to the fact of shortage of resources at the national and international levels, and some noted with regret that the IPDC was still deprived of contributions necessary to redress the imbalances in communication infrastructures.

(39) A number of speakers observed, however, that it was not enough just to develop communication. In the opinion of one of them, communication could develop only in a climate of peace. Another speaker noted that irrespective of differences in perceptions, there should be unanimity on the point that it was only if it served the preservation of peace that communication was in the service of Man. Peace and the prevention of a nuclear holocaust were considered by a third speaker as the most pressing problems facing humanity. Journalists were called upon to make their contribution in this regard.

(40) Several speakers referred to or quoted the sources - especially standard-setting instruments - on which the conception and implementation of Major Programme III was or should be based: the Constitution of Unesco, the Charter of the United Nations; Articles 19 and 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Articles 19 and 20 of the International Covenant of Political and Civil Rights, resolutions 4/19 and 4/20

adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session; the Declaration on mass media; and other resolutions unanimously adopted by the General Conference or by the General Assembly of the United Nations. In this regard, one delegate added, the work of Unesco in the field of communication should also find inspiration in the ideas and objectives of the non-aligned movement as reflected in the conclusions of the Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries in Jakarta in 1984, the Conference of Ministers of Information of the Organization of African Unity in Addis Ababa in 1985 and the tenth session of the Co-ordinating Committee of the Non-Aligned News Agencies Pool in Belgrade in 1985.

(41) Many speakers referred in one way or another to the existing and growing imbalances and discrepancies in the fields of information and communication and to the enormous needs in developing countries that had to be met in order to mitigate or eradicate such inequalities, which several delegates asserted were simply a reflection of historical circumstances or economic disparities. The imbalanced, one-way flow of information was frequently cited as evidence of the limitations in developing countries concerning communication means. Many pointed out, however, that that deficiency in information flows was not just quantitative but also qualitative, claiming that the content of many messages portrayed a distorted version of reality. 'Our population was killed twice according to some newspapers' asserted one delegate. He, as well as another delegate, charged that radio stations had been recently established to destabilize their countries.

(42) Communication as a power in itself and its relationship to power was stressed by two speakers. The nature of communication as a political, social and economic power was stressed. Another problem was how economic and political powers, in particular, controlled communication. In this context, the role of technology was the subject of a number of interventions. Communication and broadcast satellites and data banks were often cited as aspects of the unprecedented technological revolution being witnessed at present. Several delegates spoke of the need for indigenous technology and indigenous production, with due regard for the possible danger of consumer and cosmopolitan culture. Each country had to decide for itself how it would adapt to the imperatives of the new communications and information technology, a speaker said. Another speaker called upon Unesco to assist the Member States in facing all the challenges of new communication technologies.

(43) The tremendous speed with which communication technologies had been developed was seen by one participant as a driving force behind the call for a new world information and communication order. The majority of participants referred in their interventions to this call, first made by non-aligned

countries so as to reduce the imbalances between different countries and regions of the world and to seek to introduce more justice, more equality, more mutual interchange and, above all, more independence in the field of information and communication. Several references were made to the relationship between the New International Economic Order and a new world information and communication order. It was pointed out that the two went hand in hand, and without the one, the other was difficult to achieve. In the communication field more perhaps than any other, the prevailing situation in many developing countries was the direct result of the heritage of colonization. A number of speakers deplored the role of transnational corporations while some others stated that they were resolved to decolonize communication and new types of domination, not only with regard to information but also in connection with remote detection, large data bases and new technologies, as well as the domination of certain languages.

(44) Considering that it would be desirable and beneficial if a clear and practical definition were drawn up of the principles and aims underlying the concept of a new world information and communication order, a delegate speaking on behalf of three delegations of Latin American countries called upon Unesco to assume its responsible in this regard in accordance with draft resolution 385 submitted to the twenty-first session of the General Conference. Several delegates attached however, great importance to the terminology agreed on by consensus within Unesco concerning the bases and description of such a new order. It must continue to be seen as an evolving and continuous process as agreed at the 1983 General Conference and as the Executive Board recommended at its 121st session. One delegate stressed that 'this is of symbolic but crucial importance to us'. He registered his surprise and regret at the 'apparent determination of one group of countries to undermine this consensus'. That attitude could only serve to confirm suspicions about Unesco's intentions. Another delegate observed that there would never be a specific date or a special occasion on which it could be proclaimed that as from now, such a new order was in existence. One speaker stated explicitly that in view of the fact that the phrase 'evolving and continuous process' had not yet been studied and defined, her delegation agreed to accept it in the literal sense, meaning that it was not an immediate process, but one which took a longer period to establish.

(45) Some speakers thought that freedom of expression, of thought and of the press was in no contradiction with a new world information and communication order. Two speakers from countries in the non-aligned movement which called for such an order said that the press and journalists in their countries exercised their freedom without any restrictions. Various speakers emphasized that their freedom must be always firmly secured.

'It is sadly traditional', said a representative of a non-governmental organization, 'even in the most democratic societies, to blame the press when anything goes wrong. The idea of killing the messenger is not new - and it is not dead. This constant insistence at Unesco that the messenger is to blame seems like an international version of this'. He added that proposals advanced in the name of 'national sovereignty' or 'information sovereignty' that would filter or otherwise restrict the distribution or broadcasting of news reports across national borders and around the world, should be rejected. Another speaker affirmed that it must be an aim for Unesco to avoid making the status of the freedom of the press even more difficult than it was today and that the Organization should not spend its time seeking compromises regarding basic principles expressed in the United Nations Charter.

(46) Co-operation with the United Nations system and the United Nations itself was emphasized, and Unesco was urged to co-operate more with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Mention was made of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in particular. One delegate said that her government attached great importance to the initiatives taken recently by the ITU which aimed at the strengthening of communications and information infrastructures in developing countries. In that regard, she referred to the report of the Maitland Commission 'The Missing Link'. She further stressed that co-operation between ITU, UNDP, the World Bank and other institutions, banks and private industry would be needed to bring a public telephone system within the reach of developing countries. The IPDC could coordinate and stimulate activities in this field by identifying needs and acting as a catalyst for co-operation.

(47) Regional co-operation was a focus of attention of several delegates. While infrastructure development might form an essential part of that co-operation, some delegates stressed that a great number of complementary actions also had to be taken in areas such as the building of organizational mechanisms and of institutions for training and research. Collective action and self-reliance were often mentioned as the main objectives of regional co-operation.

Programme III.1: Studies on communication

(48) Opinions were divided on the overall question of communication research. On the one hand, a large number of countries regretted Unesco's shrinking role in communication research, both from a quantitative and from a qualitative point of view, and declared that they would be unable to accept further reductions in that programme. Recalling recent recommendations of the Executive Board, several countries held that Unesco's role should be basically that of catalyst and co-ordinator, stimulating work to be done by other institutions and

non-governmental organizations and collating and sifting existing data.

(49) Among those who called for continued research, one speaker pointed out that Unesco, which had been in the vanguard of assessing contemporary communication problems, now ran the risk of hindering its own programmes in education, science and culture by curtailing communication research in an age where the subsystems of mass communication, telecommunications and informatics were becoming ever more integrated. The radically changing communication environment required even more reflection, which did not necessarily imply extending resources or funding but rather placing the subject of research into a more complex frame of reference, for example by examining not only socio-cultural aspects, but economic, legal and political ones as well. The cultural dimension of communication in certain cultural and religious traditions was also well worth studying. Those issues which needed to be viewed from a worldwide perspective and which had been singled out by the MacBride Commission were, it was stated, indeed within the purview of Unesco's objectives. Little reflection meant little substance in the minds of men, in the words of one speaker.

(50) A gap existed, it was pointed out, between the targets assigned to the programme and the measures proposed to realize them. As one speaker put it, the will for bringing the most advanced thinking to bear on basic pressing issues was characteristic of Unesco and of the United Nations system, and that spirit of inquiry had to be kept alive; the developing countries in particular had a major stake in encouraging new thinking and new ideas. Research should not become synonymous with theory but should be viewed as a means to promoting new shifts in collective thinking that could lead to the solution of practical problems.

(51) The recurring theme of turning ideas into action prompted one speaker to pose the question: Which ideas? In her view, Unesco's programme of studies and research could not be charged with suppressing freedom, for Unesco was the forum for reflection on all communication problems and such problems would not disappear simply because Unesco failed to study or discuss them. Refusal to examine certain concepts and problems was, she declared, based on fears of revealing vested interests in the communication sphere.

(52) Those speakers who wished to limit research efforts reiterated their support of the decisions taken by the 120th and 121st sessions of the Executive Board, which had emphasized synthesis and analysis of work already undertaken by Unesco and other bodies. A word of caution was sounded about launching further and possibly controversial studies. Unesco, a speaker said, had lent its name to studies more concerned with controlling information and had produced two documents in particular that implicitly or explicitly called for State

controls on the media. A speaker from a developing country thought that those countries confronting basic problems of communication would benefit little from Unesco research and documentation efforts which could be undertaken by the developed countries themselves.

(53) A middle ground, however, was found by some speakers who agreed that research had its place in Unesco's communication programme but who shared the view that studies should be focused primarily on technical and practical questions that would, as one speaker put it, help those who were dispossessed of communication expertise and technology to gain useful ground.

(54) A number of speakers favoured pursuing research on the impact of new technologies, some wishing to see the studies broadened to include not only socio-cultural but economic and legal consequences as well, and others placing the emphasis on specific technological problems, with one speaker viewing the popularization of such research as of great benefit to developing countries.

(55) The need was seen by one speaker to reinforce research dealing with the impact of new micro-electronic technologies, in particular with regard to the flow of data across frontiers, long-distance teledetection, the monopoly of facilities for design and production of components, the predominance of certain languages used in informatics, the control of data banks and data bases and the reduction of jobs through automation.

(56) A plea was made by another speaker for more imaginative research topics which would go beyond the pure consideration of socio-economic systems; rather than studying the consequences of new technologies, it might be more useful to have a clearer picture of which technologies were needed to bridge certain gaps. Another research issue deemed vital to developing countries concerned the adaptation of television and cinema technologies to ensure their compatibility within a given region, so as to foster intra-regional exchange and co-operation.

(57) Turning to the specific question of studies and research relating to the concept of a new world information and communication order, almost all speakers agreed that this was to be seen as an evolving and continuous process; clear-cut differences of opinion emerged, however, as to whether Unesco should continue its efforts to study the issue.

(58) Those speakers who strongly favoured further research pointed out that not enough provision had been made in the proposed programme for developing the conceptual basis for a new order and that acceptance of the notion of a continuous and evolving process in no way should be taken to mean that the debate was closed and that research should stop. One speaker held that, given the insistence of certain countries on the evolutionary nature of a new order, it was necessary to explore that idea still further. It was also recalled that United Nations Resolution 39/98B called on Unesco to 'demonstrate its willingness to

contribute to the clarification, elaboration and application of a concept of a new world information and communication order'.

(59) Some speakers thought that research on a NWICO advanced the question and encouraged open debate among media professionals and the international scientific community. It seemed paradoxical to one speaker that the very countries that did not wish to continue exploring the basis for a new order had assigned to Unesco the important task of carrying out activities aimed, in fact, at creating the structures to bring about that new order.

(60) The representative of an international non-governmental organization cited what he termed 'a burning need' among professional communicators for conceptual material on a NWICO, a need that Unesco, as a neutral forum for debate, was especially equipped to fulfil.

(61) That opinion was strongly contested by the representative of another international non-governmental organization who had never heard an outcry for such material in journalism circles, but who had, on the contrary, often been confronted with demands for practical assistance. Such studies were far removed from the everyday reality of journalists throughout the world, and it would be a major step backward to attempt to codify the concept of a NWICO now that a healthy consensus had been reached as to its being seen as a continuous and evolving process.

(62) Further study of a new order and of the right to communicate was viewed by many speakers as unproductive and unnecessary; Unesco should not spend time or resources seeking compromises regarding basic principles. One speaker recalled that the terms of reference of the proposed studies appeared to cast doubt on the principle of the freedom and independence of the press and on the liberty of expression.

(63) Another speaker noted that he was not opposed to conceptual activities in connection with a new order and that his country looked forward to hosting a second Unesco-United Nations sponsored round table on a NWICO under the current programme and budget. Nevertheless, it would be more useful to take stock of what had been accomplished so far rather than to undertake additional studies. For while it might not be possible to define what a NWICO was, it was, in his view, possible to define what it was not, and he therefore vigorously opposed any steps or formulations which could be conceived as a threat to freedom of the media.

(64) He went on to say that he would also oppose any attempts to delete from Unesco's programme notions such as pluralism in communication, plurality of sources for journalists and the right of the media to scrutinize abuses of power. Another speaker gave strong support to pluralism of sources and channels of communication and suggested that a popularized study on this question would be appreciated by journalists the world over. For a third speaker, the term 'pluralism'

was ambiguous and had no place in Unesco's programme.

(65) Several speakers warmly supported activities connected with reinforcing research and documentation structures in the field of communication and pointed out the need to intensify such efforts, particular at the national level in developing countries. Programme III.1 corresponded to the needs of communication researchers in the Third World by contributing to strengthening institutional research structures and providing alternative methodological trends.

(66) The International Network of Documentation Centres on Communication Research and Policies (COMNET) was of special interest to some speakers, two of them from countries which housed centres belonging to the network; one pointed out that his national centre was the basis for a regional documentation centre for German-speaking countries. A speaker from an international non-governmental organization which was also a member of COMNET voiced his appreciation of Unesco's continuing support and placed high hopes in the future results of an IPDC project supported by a developed country to examine the gradual computerization of COMNET centres.

(67) In discussing the improvement of research methods in communication, a speaker from an intergovernmental organization stressed the importance for the Arab region of the question of translating terminology and adapting research methods, such as opinion polls, to the needs and conditions of developing countries. This was echoed by another speaker who requested Unesco to elaborate a guide to taking oral polls and surveys which he considered a basic tool for national communication research efforts. A widening gap was noted between the curricula of teaching institutions and the needs of the media, which posed serious problems for research in the wake of the rapid growth of communication technology.

(68) Co-operation on questions relating to the problems of communication was welcomed by several speakers who indicated that technical support to non-governmental and professional organizations and research institutions for the preparation of studies and debates was of special importance.

Programme III.2: Free flow and wider and better balanced dissemination of information; increased exchanges of news and programmes

(69) Nearly all the speakers who took the floor referred to problems connected with the free flow of information and the reduction of impediments to the circulation of books, news and programmes, and exchanges in the field of communication in general. There were also many delegates who expressed support for the activities which were helping to broaden that flow within individual countries and throughout the world. The guiding principle for future action in this field was the creation of the conditions needed for

universal communication by encouraging the participation of all nations, on a footing of equality, in the international exchange of information.

(70) The very considerable imbalances which still characterized the production and flow of messages and programmes at the global level were extensively discussed in the course of the debate. The fact that it was still impossible for a large proportion of mankind to transmit or receive information was one of the most important obstacles to freedom and to balanced exchanges. The imbalances were to be found both at the international level, between the North and the South, and at the national level, where the most disadvantaged segments of the population, usually people living in rural areas, had no means of expressing themselves and making their particular situations known. One speaker stated that 2,000 million human beings were deprived of the means to communicate and said that that figure was tending to rise.

(71) One delegate pointed out that as access to information and to the capability of producing and sending messages was a prerequisite for progress in a number of other fields, it was important that measures should be taken to correct the existing disparities. In that connection, several delegates expressed support for activities fostering a better balance in the international exchange of information. Other speakers expressed regret that greater resources had not been devoted to those activities, one of them making the point that Subprogramme III.2 should be given a budgetary 'revaluation' at least equal to the provision it had been given in the preceding biennium.

(72) The concept of the freedom of information was once again at the centre of the discussion on Programme III.2 giving rise to two currents of opinion. On the one hand, many speakers, reaffirming their regard for the principles of freedom of the press, insisted that it was essential to forestall any attempt at limiting that freedom through measures aimed at setting up controls over the organs of information. On the other hand, many speakers argued that concepts such as responsibility, justice and equality were just as important as freedom.

(73) One speaker took particular exception to the misuse, as he put it, of the term 'freedom', pointing out that the concept of freedom could include that of domination in the context of communication. Turning to cases of violation of international law which studies on the responsibility of the media might reveal, he concluded by citing an example of defamatory practices to which his own country had been subjected. Three other speakers referred to the distortion of information, two of them pointing out that the free flow of information should not give rise to 'disinformation'.

(74) Recognizing that efforts to further a better balanced flow of information were well founded, five speakers stressed the reality of the relationships that were shaping the world

in an age of monopoly on the part of the major powers and transnational corporations. One of them, referring to the radical restructuring of communication systems and the genuine prospects for development that it implied, said that, short of a total monopoly by the richest countries or the largest private international companies, there was a danger that a tendency might develop for the economically, linguistically or demographically subordinate countries to find themselves in a position where they were forced to become passive customers or consumers. In this regard, two delegates expressed their support for the measures taken to remedy this situation, while three others regretted the fact that even greater efforts had not been made.

(75) A few delegates underlined the seriousness of censorship as an obstacle to the dissemination of information. One of them, for whom censorship was tantamount to a violation of fundamental rights and principles and of Unesco's Constitution, considered that it was a problem that States and governmental authorities could help to solve. Another pointed out that, by their specific and concrete nature, the various studies carried out by Unesco on censorship and self-censorship harmonized well with the other activities of the Organization. The same speaker cited a recent study on this subject carried out in his country.

(76) Referring to exchanges of news broadcasts and programmes, several speakers welcomed the activities designed to stimulate inter-professional co-operation in this area as well as efforts to strengthen regional machinery in the field of the press, books and broadcasting. Two speakers displayed special interest in the project concerning the dissemination in the industrialized countries of television programmes from developing countries and said that their countries would like to take part in this activity.

(77) Some speakers said that the rapid development of the new communication technologies, and the use of telecommunication satellites and computers for the dissemination of information and culture were proof of the need for Unesco's continuing role in the field of exchanges. In that connection, mention was made of the steps taken by some groups of countries to equip themselves with the most modern telecommunication media (ASIAVISION and ARABSAT). Certain conditions would have to be fulfilled to ensure that those new communication technologies were used for humanity's benefit, and not to its detriment; the latter was sometimes the case, as one speaker pointed out.

(78) As regards the studies to be conducted, in collaboration with ITU (International Telecommunication Union), on the consequences of new communication technologies on telecommunication tariffs (paragraph 03207), one delegate expressed the opinion that they did not fall within Unesco's sphere of competence but belonged rather to that of the professional

organizations such as the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). Another speaker thought that the Organization should, on the contrary, use its influence to reduce tariffs applicable to telecommunication by satellite and for exchanges of information, particularly for the benefit of the developing countries.

(79) The working conditions and professional practices of communicators were mentioned by several speakers, in some cases in connection with observations regarding freedom or responsibility. Opinion was divided on this latter point, some speakers expressing their opposition, as a matter of principle, to any measure that, purporting to protect journalists, might attempt to establish, directly or indirectly, a licensing system for journalists or the formulation of codes of conduct; while others regretted the absence of standard-setting activities from the draft programme and budget.

(80) The former, while reaffirming their support for Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, said that they were opposed to any standard-setting activities that might lead to the formulation of codes of ethics likely to hamper journalists in the free exercise of their profession. In that connection, one representative of a non-governmental organization regretted that no action had been planned to encourage the private press or to support the independence of the public press.

(81) Several others, on the contrary, wished to impress upon the meeting that there could be no freedom without responsibility. Some of them regretted that the programme of action contained no activity focusing on such important concepts as freedom and responsibility or the rights and responsibilities of communicators. In response to the argument frequently heard, concerning the provisions of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, relating to freedom of opinion and expression, one speaker reminded the meeting that Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights also introduced the concepts of rights and responsibility.

(82) A number of speakers commented on the studies and meetings planned in paragraph 03208, stressing the importance of co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations, ILO and the International Committee of the Red Cross, in implementing those activities, and the need to support initiatives taken in the field by the competent professional organizations. One delegate particularly lamented the disappearance of an activity concerning the protection of journalists on dangerous missions, which had been included in the programmes of previous biennia and had been supported by all the professional associations. Unesco, he continued, had not been vigilant and courageous enough in carrying out the project. He thought it had perhaps been discouraged by certain

political pressures.

(83) A number of delegates referred to the activities proposed under Subprogramme III.2.2 (Contribution of the media to mutual respect, international understanding, respect of human rights and peace, and to the elucidation of major world problems). Two speakers expressed their agreement with the activities proposed in the subprogramme; others found that, contrary to the provisions of the Medium-Term Plan, sufficient emphasis had not been placed on the contribution of the media to solving major world problems.

(84) Several speakers were opposed to any measure aimed at imposing constraints or a particular line of conduct on the media, as regards their role in shedding light on world problems or in promoting various causes, however noble. The activities should therefore concentrate on describing what was currently happening rather than on prescribing what should be done. The Organization should confine itself to 'encouraging' the media and exploring some of these questions rather than 'eliciting' a contribution. As one speaker put it, neither Unesco nor the United Nations system as such should exercise any form of control over the content of the messages produced by the media. Likewise, they should not seek to define how the media were to contribute to certain causes. On the same principle, the representative of a non-governmental organization opposed the use of the phrase 'optimum use of the media'. Other speakers did not share these views.

(85) The importance of the role that could be played by the media in the creation of a climate of mutual understanding between peoples, at a time when the nuclear menace was jeopardizing the very survival of mankind, was stressed by various speakers. Two of them, emphasizing the importance of the mass media in the strengthening of peace, regretted that no provision had been made for an activity to commemorate the International Year of Peace (1986), notwithstanding 120 EX/Decision 4.1 (III) (paragraph 104) of the Executive Board. For another speaker, however, the most important contribution that the media could make to the establishment of a climate of mutual understanding involved the creation of greater public awareness of all the opinions and all the facts so that all could judge for themselves.

(86) The 1978 Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racialism, Apartheid and Incitement to War was mentioned by several speakers. Various delegates deplored the fact that the activities concerned with the 1978 Declaration had been reduced, particularly in relation to the Medium-Term Plan, one of them pointing out that no provision had been made for a meeting of experts on the subject. On the other hand, other speakers questioned the

need to continue with actions aimed at promoting the implementation of the 1978 Declaration. One delegate, recalling the recommendation of the Executive Board on that matter, thought the activities relating to the Declaration should be implemented bearing in mind the diversity of the media and taking care not to compromise the principles of the freedom and independence of the press.

(87) Two speakers expressed their support for the planned studies on the contribution of the media to scrutinizing activities that might lead to abuses of power (paragraph 03214 (b)); one of them said his country had a very special interest in that activity.

(88) Some speakers also attached importance to the studies on the relationship between the violence reported by or portrayed in the media and individual and group violence (paragraph 03214 (e)). One delegate also mentioned that an international seminar on violence and the media would shortly be held in his country.

(89) Various delegates also referred to the studies of the contribution the media could make to the solution of the problem of refugees, and to studies on the situation of immigrants (paragraph 03215). One of them, mentioning the participation by an institution in his country in previous studies on those problems, said he hoped to see an extension of such activities in the future. Another speaker stressed the importance of the role that the media could play in solving the problems of refugees, for instance in connection with the serious drought afflicting his country.

(90) Several speakers representing different regions and an intergovernmental organization stressed the importance they attached to Subprogramme III.2.3 (Contribution of the media to promoting equality between women and men and strengthening women's access to and participation in communication) and indicated that their country or organization was willing to take part in the proposed activities; one speaker mentioned the need to develop inter-agency co-operation, especially with the WHO. Another speaker mentioned the training of women in the communication professions and the promotion of access by women to decision-making posts as being priority actions in that field.

(91) One speaker mentioned the establishment in his country of a group known as 'Women and Communication', which had already undertaken a series of activities aimed at promoting equality between men and women in the field of communication; the group planned to hold a seminar in 1986 on the attitude taken by journalists when they dealt with matters relating to women and on sexist ideology in the treatment of information. Unesco's assistance was being requested for that purpose. Lastly, a representative of an intergovernmental organization mentioned a study published by his organization on the situation of women in the Arab region and their image in the media.

Programme III.3: Development of communication

(92) The twenty-third session of the General Conference left little doubt that this programme was at the heart of the Organization's communication activities. Speakers from both developed and developing countries who pleaded for a greater 'balance between reflection and action' nevertheless agreed that if there had to be an 'imbalance' it should be on the side of 'action', which was the essence of Programme III.3. Speakers of developing countries, in particular, dwelt on the importance of building their communication infrastructures, acquiring technical 'know-how' and training their personnel, as vital to the goal of a new world information and communication order. While accepting the 'continuous and evolving' consensus on communication development, they implicitly suggested that the evolution should be as rapid as possible. Equally, there were frequent expressions of frustration that, although industrialized countries acknowledged the desirability of a better balance of communication between 'north' and 'south', they were hardly doing enough to achieve it.

(93) Formulation and implementation of policies and plans for the development of communication received the attention of the overwhelming majority of speakers although this was largely in support, frequently in praise, of the IPDC. Other proposed actions did, however, attract several speakers. The formulation of policies in particular was seen as an essential process in the proper use of resources and orderly development. One speaker described how his country had established media policy and planning councils, bringing together the various strands of communication as represented by both private and public interests in the use of communication. Another speaker made the theme of his intervention the hazards of too early and ill-considered acquisition of communication technologies. He dwelt at length on the social disruption, unemployment and eventual dependency which technology introduced, stressing the need for reflection and long-ranging planning before embarking on any programme to introduce new hardware-based systems. Throughout the debate, where the need for policy-formulation and planning might be acknowledged, even emphasized, the dominant theme was that technology was fundamental to communication. Moreover it was urgently required to accelerate the process of 'catching-up', which was the essence of development. In that context, the IPDC Intergovernmental Council's recommended periodic report on communication throughout the world was discussed.

(94) In the Council's view, the publication of a periodic report would, among other things, be a valuable contribution to communication planning. Two speakers felt, however, that the action went beyond the mandate given by the Council at its sixth session, another that it was a relatively costly endeavour

and its actual value difficult to access. The latter point was put in the form of a question to the Acting Assistant Director-General for Communication. In his response, the Acting Assistant Director-General indicated that as the draft programme and budget had to be prepared between sessions of the IPDC Intergovernmental Council, provision had to be made in anticipation of eventual Council approval, otherwise resources would not be available for the next biennium. Moreover, he stated, not only had the Council's bureau endorsed the initiative in September 1985 but also the action had been prepared on the basis of a large-scale consultation including both the UPU and ITU.

(95) One speaker welcomed the proposed action to evaluate Unesco's activities in the endogenous production of programmes and messages, suggesting that more evaluation should be an integral part of programme planning and development, as recommended by the Executive Board.

(96) Sixty-three representatives of Member States and three representatives of NGOs who took the floor commended the IPDC for providing practical assistance in building up the media capacities of developing countries. They emphasized that that was a good way of increasing the flow of information both among the developing countries and between them and the developed countries. Twenty delegates spoke about the progress of IPDC projects in their own countries.

(97) Several speakers welcomed the IPDC approach of entering into direct contracts with media institutions in developing countries. Many delegates supported the IPDC Chairman's statement that the IPDC was not merely an agency which disbursed financial assistance for technology and training but also concerned itself with the end-results of such assistance. The building-up of the confidence of the media institutions in developing countries in managing their own resources was an equally important goal.

(98) Delegates of several countries offered to examine ways and means of providing further assistance to the IPDC. Those countries were Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Sweden, USSR and Yugoslavia. One country, Zimbabwe, pledged a contribution of \$10,000.

(99) Delegates confirmed that manpower training was one of the most important components of communication development. That need had been stressed often by media planners. The IPDC had begun to address that felt need. While recognizing that over 350 trainees had benefited from IPDC training courses, some delegates suggested that greater emphasis should be placed on training in institutions in developing countries themselves. In that connection, one delegate described the courses made available for training in his country and expressed a willingness to offer further training fellowships under the IPDC

scheme.

(100) Several delegates referred to the co-ordinating function of the IPDC in the field of communication assistance. One delegate referred to the need to provide project preparation assistance of high technical quality so that Member States could approach not only the IPDC but other institutions such as the IBRD and regional development banks for financing of their communication infrastructures. Similarly, several speakers drew attention to the need for the refining of IPDC's project preparation procedures.

(101) Another aspect of IPDC's co-ordinating role referred to by some delegates was its statutory responsibility of liaison with other agencies of the United Nations family concerned with communication, particularly ITU. Special mention was made of the proposed Centre for Telecommunications Development of ITU and the need for IPDC to work in co-operation with that Centre. One delegate emphasized the need to give priority to public telephone systems in communication development projects.

(102) One speaker referred to IPDC's 'intersectoral and inter-agency mandate' and felt that the programme and its Secretariat should retain 'a certain autonomy within Unesco' in order to function as 'a central agency within the United Nations system for the development of communication'. Another speaker stated that the IPDC which 'meets an agreed need to develop communication systems in developing countries' needed many more resources and appealed to Member States to make contributions to the Special Account. The same speaker felt that 'the action-oriented activities of the Communication Sector of Unesco might, in the future, be placed under the responsibility of IPDC'. Finally, one speaker, who emphasized that the IPDC should 'maintain its special character and identity', wished to be assured on the relationship between the IPDC Secretariat and the rest of the Communication Sector.

(103) Being invited by the Chairman to respond to those points, the Acting Assistant Director-General for Communication stated that the IPDC was a programme created by the General Conference and administered by Unesco's Director-General, and that the running expenses and the Secretariat were provided from the regular programme. Without the continuing support of the staff of the Sector, the IPDC could not have planned or executed its many projects, and their services were provided to IPDC without charge. The Secretariat would continue to provide it with full co-operation for carrying out the projects approved by its Council, as well as the flexibility in action enjoyed by the unit responsible for IPDC activities. In answer to the question as to how the operational activities of the Communication Sector differed from those approved by the IPDC Council, he reminded the Commission of the distinction to be drawn between activities provided for in Unesco's biennial programmes and those approved with full authority by the

Council of a special programme attached to the Secretariat, such as the IPDC.

(104) Several interventions made positive references to the proposed actions for the acquisition of appropriate plant and equipment and endogenous production of equipment and six speakers singled out one or more of the proposed actions for particular attention. One delegate felt the design and local production of solar-powered radio transmitters and receivers as foreseen in the draft 23 C/5 would be a significant step in diminishing the dependence of developing countries on imported technology. Another, from a tropical country, pointed out that solar technology was particularly suited to her region, adding that teleconferencing and teletext distribution systems would also provide solutions to communication among groups of countries which were widely dispersed but shared common heritages and common institutions. Other speakers saw the need to make computer technology more accessible to developing countries.

(105) Two speakers evoked the memory of the late Esmond Wickremesinghe, whose enthusiastic support of modern technology had led to an important draft resolution introduced by his country. The Chairman of the Commission and the Rapporteur of the IPDC also paid their respects to the memory of Mr Wickremesinghe, and the Rapporteur, speaking in the debate on behalf of his country, emphasized the importance of advanced communication technologies in answering the needs of the world's poorest people.

(106) Training and further training of all communication personnel was a recurring theme throughout the debate. A substantial number of speakers suggested that those were the most important actions of the entire communication programme. Several interventions drew attention to specific training areas, communication management, computers and software, film production, news agency journalism, technical maintenance and research being among the priorities suggested.

(107) One delegate spoke of the newly established multi-media training centre in his country, at the inauguration of which the Director-General of Unesco had spoken. He hoped that that centre would be able to play a wider role in South East Asia. There was also a proposal calling for the establishment of a regional centre in Africa which would train media managers, while another speaker supported a draft resolution calling for journalism training with regional centre implications. Another speaker drew attention to the regional training provided by the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development.

(108) While few speakers entered into the substance of training, one representative of an NGO offered a word of caution, referring particularly to the training programme of IPDC. That fellowship scheme, he suggested, had some risks of cultural alienation when it was acquired abroad. In his view, donor countries should be persuaded to make

trainers and equipment available in developing countries and regions. Another delegate suggested that most communication training was too short and that courses should be longer, while one speaker felt that professional training should take greater advantage of new technologies. On-the-job training was also stressed as an important means of acquiring knowledge and skills.

(109) The endogenous production and dissemination of printed matter, programmes and messages ranked high among the interests expressed during the Commission's debate. Both the developed and the developing countries agreed that the correction of imbalances had to be brought about by strengthening local facilities for the production of information, programmes and messages, and even by creating or developing endogenous cultural industries that would be able to play a part on the exchange market. Other speakers, on the other hand, said they subscribed to a more traditional conception of 'endogenous production', or even of rural communication. One delegate in particular saw not only the decentralization of the media but also the 'demassification' of the media as a growing trend. That concept echoed a previous speaker's suggestion that small systems were necessary in order to avoid the mutation or disappearance of cultural identities which larger systems tended to provoke.

(110) Several delegates expressed regret that the action for the promotion of co-production and exchange of endogenous programmes had warranted only second priority. One speaker suggested that only co-production would make it possible for some countries to produce films. Another proposed that Unesco should reinforce exchanges of programmes as a means of sharing the experience and cultural resources of the media.

(111) Speakers from industrialized countries stressed the importance of the subprogramme, relating it in some cases to their own difficulties in sustaining endogenous production against the flood of international media programmes. Some of those countries had found means of expressing their concerns through programmes of assistance to the endogenous production of poorer countries and described their activities in that field.

(112) A large number of speakers warmly supported the subprogramme concerning action in favour of books and reading and welcomed the regrouping of those activities into a single subprogramme in the proposed programme and budget. The great importance was pointed out of that traditional form of communication, which should not be overlooked amidst the vast array of new media and new forms of transmitting knowledge. Books it was stated, were the repository of values and retained their currency despite the consequences that new technologies might have on reading skills and habits.

(113) The need to stimulate book production and reading was vital if

literacy efforts were to bear fruit. The growth of the book industry was a significant factor in overall progress and several speakers regretted that efforts to stimulate co-publication programmes had been given lesser priority.

(114) Such efforts were viewed as a key element in regional co-operation, which was underlined by a number of speakers. For Africa, a request was made by one speaker for continuing Unesco support to the Regional Centre for Book Development in Africa (CREPLA) in Yaoundé which, he stated, was encountering the type of structural difficulties not uncommon to many fledgling regional institutions in developing countries. Another speaker expressed his gratitude for the Unesco and IPDC support that was instrumental in launching the first university-level course for book industry personnel in West Africa. Two speakers recalled the noteworthy contribution of the Asian Cultural Centre for Unesco (ACCU) in Tokyo to Unesco's training efforts in the book field and to the production of reading materials for new literates. One speaker mentioned the work of the Regional Centre for Book Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CERLALC) and requested continued Unesco support.

(115) Interprofessional co-operation was another key factor and was earmarked for special attention by some speakers who referred to the role played in their countries by National Book Development Councils, grouping members of the various book professions.

(116) The cultural role of books was singled out by a large number of speakers who pointed out the importance of the writer and the need to encourage the use of local languages so as to preserve and strengthen cultural identity. Books must be made accessible to all people and customs barriers should be lifted. One speaker expressed the view that the resources allocated to this subprogramme should be increased in the light of its importance and of the possibilities it offered for consensus.

(117) The subprogramme concerning the safeguarding and preservation of fixed and moving images, seen as being threatened by drastic reductions, as reflected in two draft resolutions which shifted the quasi-totality of Subprogramme III.3.6 into second priority, was strongly defended by a number of delegates from Member States and representatives of international non-governmental organizations. A note of urgency was sounded by speakers from several developing countries who gave paramount importance to preserving the cultural identity of their peoples as recorded on tapes and films. Images, moving and fixed, reflected a country's past and present and could project them into the future only if measures were taken to protect their vulnerability and sensitivity to the damage wrought by time, climate and negligence. Hence the emphasis placed by several speakers on the need both to seek ways of conserving the material supports on which images

rested and to develop up-to-date computer-based film archival systems to preserve and transmit the visual heritage.

(118) That need, it was recalled, was endorsed by Unesco in its Recommendation for the Safeguarding and Preservation of Moving Images, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-first session in 1980. Unesco thus had a major role in deploying and reinforcing national, regional and international efforts to strengthen film archival institutions in developing countries and to foster the exchange of experience in that young and still-to-be-explored field.

(119) That exchange of experience was vital, one speaker pointed out, so as to avoid duplication of effort among universities and research institutions, which were frequently working in an isolated and empirical fashion.

(120) Adequate materials and equipment were also of concern and one speaker requested that Unesco should finance the installation of infrastructures in his country for the treatment and preservation of films.

(121) Technical assistance was offered by a speaker from a Member State long experienced in questions of film archives and storage and by a speaker from an international non-governmental organization that had been instrumental in launching 22 new archives in developing countries over the past five years, in co-operation with Unesco, as a follow-up to the Recommendation. Unesco, she stated, should not reduce the programme but rather double or triple the resources allocated to it, for the life of a film in tropical climates was precarious and developing countries were losing daily the documents of their past and contemporary history.

(122) Few delegates found time in their limited interventions to speak on the proposed subprogramme for education of users. Most included the theme implicitly in the general endorsement of the programme for the Development of communication (III.3) while others cited it by paragraph references. One delegate saw a particular interest in the subject. He suggested that a non-governmental organization, notably the International Centre of Films for Children and Young People, should be engaged in that action as a means of educating youth, formally and informally, in the understanding and appreciation of films.

Item 4.1 - The right to communicate

(123) The notion of the right to communicate and other related rights was taken up by the many speakers, several of whom paid tribute to the Secretariat for the report presented by the Director-General to the General Conference (23 C/13) in connection with item 4.1 of the agenda. That report responded to resolution 3.2 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session. It incorporated the results of consultations with Member States and professional organizations, presented the

state of the art and suggested various options for the future. The report was praised by a number of speakers for its objectivity, clarity and brevity.

(124) The discussions showed that one of the biggest obstacles to agreement on a definition of the right to communicate was caused by conflicting political and ideological views on the interpretation of human rights. Contradictory approaches appeared to be perhaps deeper than what had been earlier foreseen. As one of the speakers said: 'Many of us who were privileged to work with and learn from Jean d'Arcy, the father of this right, and who knew the positive way in which he envisaged this right, have been surprised at the divisiveness it has sparked.' From the interventions of speakers who dealt with the subject, it became evident that there was a significant diversity of views regarding what was meant by the right to communicate, and that that diversity extended from one extreme to another.

(125) Some speakers saw the right to communicate as the expression of the rights and freedoms already existing in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in particular in Article 19. In the view of those speakers, the right to communicate should never be regarded as a substitute for, or a qualification or contradiction of, any of those rights. Most of them stressed that the right was located in the individual and not in the society or the people. Two speakers regretted that the right so often came to mean, however, in practice, a right of States or government-directed corporations to come between the media and their audiences.

(126) In affirming the significance of access by citizens to various sources of information, another speaker pointed not only to the interventions but also to the limitations and restrictions emanating from institutions, agencies or corporate bodies which occupied monopoly positions. The manipulation of information by a few countries and transnational corporations active in the areas of communication and informatics appeared to one speaker as the main obstacle which hindered individuals and peoples from enjoying their right and ability to communicate.

(127) Another group of speakers saw the right to communicate as both an individual and a collective human right intended to enable all persons to participate effectively in political, economic, social and cultural life, to democratize international relations in the field of information and communication, and intended also to strengthen peace and international understanding. One speaker said that that right should not be denied to any individual or any nation. Another speaker deplored the fact that some peoples were deprived of their right to communicate and to make their voice heard. She gave examples of both the Palestinian people and the people of South Africa. Some speakers related the notion of the right to communicate to other concepts such as a new world information and communication order and

democratization of, and participation in, communication. One speaker declared that the right was already practised in his country through a 'system of participatory communication'.

(128) The interventions of several speakers, however, reflected that they were not attached in particular to one position or another. 'On the assumption that this right would not undermine the existing right of the individuals to freedom of expression', one speaker said, 'my delegation's views fall somewhere in the middle'. One of the main reasons for refraining from taking sides or elaborating firm positions, several speakers indicated, was that the right to communicate was a multifaceted notion, the precise content of which was not yet clearly defined, let alone its elaboration and implementation. Another speaker described it as an evolving process which needed continuous assessment in relation to several other notions and considerations.

(129) Modern communication technologies were seen by some speakers as an important element influencing the right to communicate. According to one speaker, they created the opportunity for many people of different ages and sex, of different social backgrounds and cultural interests, to express themselves and to gain access to all the information that was available. A right to communicate should, in her view, allow for fostering, and benefiting from, such a situation. A number of speakers raised, however, the question as to whether or not communication technologies would increase the gap both between and within the industrialized developing countries. In that regard, a speaker noted that efforts to study, evaluate and legalize human rights had never been able to catch up with the unprecedented development of communication technologies. He said that that gap might endanger fundamental freedoms and rights and called for establishing an equilibrium between scientific progress and the right of man to communicate.

(130) In discussing future approaches and action in the field, some delegates found no need for the elaboration of any new international instrument. One delegate observed that the principles upon which the right to communicate was based were already enshrined in established international instruments already mentioned, including the Constitution of the Organization. Another speaker stressed that proposals to define a right to communicate that would qualify the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, should be avoided. To specify who should have that right and under what conditions would be a restriction of a universal entitlement, he added. Another speaker stated that the human rights documents that existed needed no rewriting or further tinkering. 'What they need' he said, 'is to be observed'.

(131) A number of speakers emphasized that the right to communicate appeared to be a case where efforts and resources could be expended more effectively on practical projects to assist developing

countries. A speaker from one of those countries said the right could not be exercised unless the deprived majority of the world's population possessed the communication capabilities and infrastructures enabling them to gain strength and expand their resources. Another speaker from a developing country doubted the usefulness of continuing studies, saying that the right to communicate had been sufficiently analysed and discussed. Others called upon Unesco to suspend studies related to that concept.

(132) Most of the speakers who dealt with the subject were, however, of the opinion that the need existed for further studies on that complicated issue. Two speakers associated themselves with the course indicated by the Executive Board: to collate the work already done and to broaden the study-base when the necessity really existed and within the limits of the budget. One speaker said that he did not see the point of two studies envisaged in Subprogramme III.1.2 'If, however, these studies are considered by others to be important', he said, 'we assume that they will concentrate on how freedom of opinion and expression can be ensured, and on identifying obstacles to it which currently exist in some Member States'. Another speaker pointed to a further area of study - that of the right to privacy, especially in view of new communication technologies. A third speaker stressed the lack of studies on inter-relationships between different existing rights.

(133) In expressing their belief that it would be wise to allow for more time for study and reflection, two speakers warned against reaching hasty conclusions or definitive positions. 'New rights take some time to be rooted', one speaker said. He added: 'Patience in this regard is understandable as new rights usually upset balances, discomfort established norms and systems and open windows for untried ideas'.

(134) At the end of the debate, the Acting Assistant Director-General for Communication summed up the 87 speeches made, noting, on the one hand, that they had referred essentially to three main themes: the new world information and communication order, the right to communicate, and the operational aspects of Major Programme III, including IPDC; and, on the other, that all delegates without exception had taken the concept of a new world information and communication order as the central reference point of their discussion. Lastly, he observed that there was now universal recognition of the priority to be given to operational activities. The time for discussions on major principles - which were nevertheless necessary - was passing, giving way to the period of practical action, and efforts were currently being made to secure greater consistency between what was said and what was done.

(135) Replying to the doubts expressed on the subject, chiefly by the representatives of the Group II countries, on the ground that Major Programme III, by giving action precedence

over reflection, had departed from the Medium-Term Plan, the Acting Assistant Director-General first pointed out that, like all the Major Programmes proposed for the forthcoming biennium, Major Programme III had followed the guidelines set by the Executive Board, which had considered its wording to be in accordance with the views of the Member States consulted and with its own recommendations. He went on to say that the cutting down of the studies section asked for by the Executive Board was prompted by the problems of the current situation (concentration and definition of priorities) but that the general medium-term objective would be respected since, as the delegate of France had put it, it would be unacceptable for Unesco to cease being an organization for intellectual co-operation and to be reduced to being a mere agency for technical assistance.

(136) The Acting Assistant Director-General also told the Commission that he feared that Subprogramme III.3.6 might be practically reduced to nothing if the proposals contained in some draft resolutions were to be added to those already put forward by the Executive Board. While creativity was, at the present time, increasingly expressed by way of images, there was a danger that Unesco might be obliged to remove from its programmes practically all references to 'audio-visual archives' and 'photography'. A number of questions raised in the course of the debate were also answered. To the delegate of Cuba, who was wondering about a DR approved by the General Conference at its twenty-first session which dealt with studies that the Organization was supposed to have carried out with a view to producing a declaration on the new world information and communication order, it was pointed out that document 22 C/5 Approved had reflected that decision. The delegate of Hungary, who was concerned about the democratization of communication, was told that 25 studies had been requested and would be published in the light of the new ideas on the subject. The delegate of Nigeria, who had asked about the International Network of Documentation Centres on Communication Research and Policies (COMNET), was told that two African centres formed part of the network and that a project for strengthening the infrastructure of the one in Nairobi was to be submitted to the seventh session of the IPDC Council. Lastly, it was pointed out to the delegate of Senegal that a meeting between regional news agencies was scheduled for 1986, and that the large international news agencies would also be invited to it.

(137) Referring to the successes of the IPDC and to the legitimate pride that the Secretariat could feel in them, the Acting Assistant Director-General stressed that much administrative and budgetary attention had been concentrated on that programme, so as to ensure a growth rate that was already of the order of 30 per cent per annum. He gave explanations, however, to three delegates - those of Norway, Sweden and Nigeria - who

had referred to particular matters relating to the programme. He pointed out to the delegate of Norway that his suggestion that all the operational activities of the sector should be entrusted to IPDC alone would consist either in a mere formal change of label, with the Secretariat continuing to carry out those activities by the same procedures, or, in a major decision on a programme established by the General Conference, which would then affect the general policy of the Organization with respect to its specialized programmes. He once more explained where the differences lay between the Organization's regular programme and the IPDC, the two being complementary rather than a case of duplication. He explained to the delegate of Sweden that to make the IPDC act as a central agency for the development of communication within the United Nations system would be liable seriously to upset a programme that was still only at the initial stage of its growth. Lastly he assured the delegate of Nigeria that the Secretariat had devised a means of protecting the IPDC from the perverse effects of the current budgetary circumstances.

(138) The Acting Assistant Director-General also supplied further information for the delegates of Canada and Mexico about the periodic report on the State of Communication throughout the World, observing that it was because the principle of that report had been adopted at the sixth session of the IPDC Council that it was currently being submitted to the General Conference.

(139) The Acting Assistant Director-General dwelt on other programmes and subprogrammes under Major Programme III, noting the general interest that delegates had shown in the activities for the training of communication personnel and in those for the promotion of books and reading. He reassured the delegate of Pakistan that the book-promotion activities in Asia and the Pacific would continue to occupy an important place in the book programme, and told the delegate of Cameroon that he hoped the interest shown by the Government of Cameroon in the Regional Book Development Centre for Africa (CREPLA) would lead to the renewal of the international co-operation agreement between Unesco and Cameroon, which was likely to encourage other countries in the region to take part in it.

(140) The Acting Assistant Director-General noted, with satisfaction, that the majority of delegates had found Major Programme III to be drawn up in strict conformity with the guidelines laid down, and, in conclusion, expressed the hope that better distribution of the wealth represented by communication would ultimately enable men to live on good terms one with another.

(141) The Chairman of the IPDC, Mr Gunnar Garbo, in his final reply thanked the Commission for the overwhelming support which had been given to the activities of the IPDC. He emphasized that the 'achievements of IPDC are the achievements of Unesco and that credit to the IPDC is credit to Unesco'.

(142) Defining the role of IPDC, he said that the General Conference of Unesco, in creating that programme, had, by unanimous decision, given the IPDC a distinct identity. The task of implementing the objectives of the IPDC had been given to an intergovernmental council. As instructed by the General Conference the Director-General of Unesco had put at the disposal of the Council a secretariat headed by a Director, appointed by the Director-General on the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Council. The secretariat of the IPDC was located within the Secretariat of Unesco. It was one of the units of the Communication Sector placed under the administrative authority of the ADG for Communication. The IPDC Director had to coordinate and oversee all aspects of the programme. But, he said, the whole Sector was engaged in IPDC-related work, and without that commitment from the regular budget of Unesco, the present performance of the IPDC would not have been possible.

(143) While operational activities under the regular programme continued alongside the new activities of the IPDC, it was evident that there might be problems in perceiving 'what is the IPDC and what is the regular programme'. One developed country, for instance, had taken the view that all its funds-in-trust contributions to Unesco in the field of communication should be allocated through IPDC. Referring to the statement that, in the future, all operational activities in the communication sector might perhaps be placed under the umbrella of IPDC, the Chairman stated that this was not a formal proposition but more a contribution to forward thinking. His firm view was that the present arrangement should continue till more experience was gained, as it had the distinct advantage of working well.

(144) Referring to the large number of favourable responses to the activities of IPDC, the Chairman said that he looked upon them as reflecting the large number of IPDC projects which were now taking shape in developing countries. He agreed with delegates who stated that manpower training was perhaps the most important component of communication development. IPDC's training programme would be developed further in the future, especially by taking advantage of offers of training made by institutions in developing countries.

(145) Referring to the Commission's discussions of the co-ordinating function of the IPDC in the field of communication assistance, the Chairman drew attention to paragraphs III (iv) and (viii) of the Recommendations on the IPDC adopted by the Intergovernmental Conference for Co-operation Activities, Needs and Programmes for Communication Development (1980) in which the IPDC was clearly mandated to play such a role. He was particularly gratified by the relationship with ITU which, in addition to other forms of co-operation, was executing eight IPDC projects financed both under Special Account and Funds-in-Trust arrangements.

(146) Turning to the periodic report on the State of Communication in the World, Mr Garbo said that this idea had emanated from the fourth session of the IPDC Council. Since then several preliminary studies had been carried out on the subject within the framework of the IPDC. He was gratified that the Director-General of Unesco had included a sum of 230,000 dollars for this report in the current draft programme and budget. At its last session, the IPDC Council had allocated 50,000 dollars for a note on the parameters of the proposed report and several consultations. The forthcoming session of the Intergovernmental Council would examine a project proposal seeking the commitment of another 100,000 dollars.

(147) The Bureau of the IPDC had unanimously authorized the Chairman to recommend to the present General Conference of Unesco the approval of the allocation of funds for the periodic report as proposed in document 23 C/5. That report would be a joint venture. The Bureau of the IPDC felt that the elected bodies of the IPDC should be consulted on a regular basis on basic decisions concerning the production of the report and its range and scope.

(148) Finally, while thanking all those who had made offers of contributions to the IPDC, the Chairman made special mention of Zimbabwe, which had pledged 10,000 dollars to the IPDC Special Account. Of the 34 Member States which had contributed to the Special Account, 25 were developing nations. If other Member States, which were more advantageously placed financially, gave a proportionate amount of their revenue to the Special Account, then the economic foundation of the IPDC would be secure. 'You don't need to do more than Zimbabwe', said Mr Garbo, 'but you might do as much'.

Recommendations concerning discussion unit
4 - Major Programme III: and item 4.1

(149) At the conclusion of the debate, the Commission, having been informed of the withdrawal of draft resolutions 18, 47 and 164, decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the decisions concerning the following draft resolutions: 23 C/DRs. 5, 46, 53, 88, 199 and 165.

(150) The Commission then decided, on the proposal of the Chairman, to set up a working group to try to reconcile the points of view expressed in the draft resolutions on which no consensus had been reached during the discussion in Commission. This working group, composed of three representatives of each of the electoral groups, was chaired by the delegate of Nigeria and comprised delegates of the following countries: France, Denmark, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Group I), German Democratic Republic, Poland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (Group II), Venezuela, Brazil, Cuba (Group III), Japan, Pakistan, Philippines (Group IV), Nigeria, Congo, Malawi (Group V(a)),

Algeria, Morocco, Yemen Arab Republic (Group V(b)). The group considered the following 26 draft resolutions: 23 C/DRs. 6, 7, 15 Rev., 41, 42, 45 & Corr., 60, 78 Rev., 85, 87, 89, 90, 94, 95, 129, 143 & Add. & Add.2 & Annex, 147, 148 & Rev., 149, 216, 232, 236, 238 & Corr., 244, 268, and 23 C/COM.IV/DR.2.

(151) After considering at its twentieth meeting the recommendations of the working group, which are annexed to this document under reference number 23 C/114 Add.2, Part I, and having regard to the decisions taken earlier (paragraph 142), the Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the following decisions concerning the various draft resolutions.

(152) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.5 in first priority and provide in that connection a budgetary allocation of \$10,000 to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(153) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.6 in first priority and provide in that connection a budgetary allocation of \$10,000 to be financed from the reduction of \$10,000 in the amount stated in document 23 C/5 that it was recommended should be made when DR.216 was being considered.

(154) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.7, as modified by consensus, in first priority and provide in that connection a budgetary allocation of \$9,500 to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(155) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of draft resolution 23 C/DR.15 Rev., as modified by consensus, in first priority and provide in that connection a budgetary allocation of \$210,000 to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(156) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.18 was withdrawn by its author.

(157) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.41 was withdrawn by its author.

(158) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.42, which involves the transfer from second to first priority of a budgetary allocation of \$53,000, to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(159) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.45 and 45 Corr., which involves the transfer from second to first priority of a budgetary allocation of \$120,000, to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(160) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.46 which involves the transfer from second to first priority of a budgetary allocation of \$25,000 to be taken from the reserve of \$1,000,000 for draft resolutions from Member States.

(161) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.47 was withdrawn by its author.

(162) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.53 and invite the Director-General to take it into account as far as possible during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(163) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.60 had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme. The delegate of the Mongolian People's Republic expressed certain reservations with regard to this text, but nevertheless rallied to the consensus.

(164) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.78 Rev. was dropped, since the Commission considered that the proposal contained in it should be submitted to Unesco in connection, for example, with the participation programme for the next biennium.

(165) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.85 was withdrawn, since its author accepted the consolidated text approved by consensus to replace draft resolutions 60 and 236.

(166) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.87 had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(167) In the light of the Director-General's observations, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve 23 C/DR.88.

(168) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve 23 C/DR.89, as modified by consensus.

(169) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.90 had been replaced, along with DR.94 and part of DR.95, by a consensus text which was to be included in second priority with a budgetary allocation of \$10,000 to be financed by adjustment of the 'blocked funds' in Part IX.

(170) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.94: see 23 C/DR.90.

(171) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.95:

(a) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that the proposal in this draft resolution to amend paragraph ++03106(2)(a) had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(b) See 23 C/DR.90.

(172) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.119 and invite the Director-General to take it into account as far as possible during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(173) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note 23 C/DR.129

as modified by consensus, with transfer from first to second priority of \$50,000 and transfer from second to first priority of \$800,000 following the recommendation made by the Executive Board in 23 C/6 and Add.

(174) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of that part of 23 C/DR.143 and Add. and Add.2 and Annex relating to unit 4, with transfers from first to second priority of \$82,000 to be financed through adjustments in the distribution between first and second priority of the paragraphs and their related budget provisions encompassed in this DR, in conformity with the following proposal made by the delegate of Brazil and amended by the delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Proposed 23 C/5 paragraphs

		<u>First priority</u>	
			\$
3205	(b)	39,000	(1)
3214	(a)	13,000	(2)
3214	(c)	10,000	(1)
3305	(b)	-	(1)
3305	(c)	11,900	(1)
3348	(b)	30,000	(1)
3354	(a)	11,400	(1)
		115,300	

		<u>Second priority</u>	
			\$
3205	(e)	12,000	(3)
3207	(a)	15,000	(1)
3222	(a)	15,000	(3)
3222	(d)	16,000	(3)
3222	(e)	19,000	(3)
3348	(f)	20,000	(3)
		97,000	

- (1) Unchanged from 23 C/5.
- (2) Reduction from \$23,000 to \$13,000.
For explanations see paragraph 180.
- (3) Transfer from ++first priority to +second priority.

The delegates of Brazil, Canada, France, India, Mexico, Norway and the USSR expressed reservations about certain activities shifted to second priority and, in particular, those dealing with women and violence in the media. The delegate of France requested that a solution should be sought for financing the activities under paragraph 03322 which had been assigned second priority. The delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics also expressed reservations about certain activities shifted to second priority. All those delegates nevertheless rallied to the consensus.

(175) 23 C/DR.147 was withdrawn by its author.

(176) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.148 Rev. had been replaced by a

consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(177) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.149 had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(178) 23 C/DR.164 was withdrawn by its author.

(179) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.165 and invite the Director-General to take it into account as far as possible during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(180) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.216, as modified by consensus, in first priority reducing to \$13,000 the proposed budgetary allocation of \$23,000. The resulting saving of \$10,000 will be used to finance the increase resulting from the recommendation relating to DR.6.

(181) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.232 had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(182) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.236 had been replaced by a consensus text and invited the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(183) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.238 and 238 Corr. had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(184) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR.244 had been replaced by a consensus text and invite the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

(185) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve 23 C/DR.268 as modified by consensus.

(186) The Commission recommended that the General Conference note that 23 C/DR/COM.IV/DR.2 had been replaced by a consensus text and invites the Director-General to take it into account during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the programme.

Proposed resolution in document 23 C/5

(187) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend that the General

Programme Commissions

Conference adopt the draft resolution appearing in paragraph 03002, as amended (23 C/Resolution 3.1).

Approval of budget provisions

(188) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend that the General Conference approve for Major Programme III a budget provision of \$13,517,100 under the regular programme (paragraph 03001 of document 23 C/5), after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) a sum of \$4,187,600 for second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions

might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions or by the General Conference.

Work plan

(189) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the amended work plan relating to Major Programme III appearing in paragraphs 03001 to 03401 of document 23 C/5.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNITS 11 AND 12 - MAJOR PROGRAMME VII: INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

(190) In his introduction to the debate on Major Programme VII (Information systems and access to knowledge) the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support informed the Commission that the General Information Programme (PGI) had, as part of the internal restructuring decided upon by the Director-General, had been transferred to his Sector. That transfer brought together, in the same sector, the two divisions responsible for carrying out Major Programme VII.

(191) After reminding the Commission of the internal structure of Major Programme VII, established in accordance with the provisions of the second Medium-Term Plan, he put forward a number of comments and reflections on Programmes VII.1 and VII.2, which came under PGI. First of all, he pointed out that the activities proposed under PGI in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 were in keeping with the second Medium-term Plan and reflected the recommendations made by the PGI Intergovernmental Council at its fifth session. The proposed programme thus preserved the identity of PGI, with its intersectoral and interdisciplinary character, and the balance between the various fields of information covered (i.e. library science, archives services and scientific and technological information), and ensured that the activities intended to assist national systems and those tending to promote regional co-operation were complementary, as they should be.

(192) In order to provide the programme with the resources to produce a sufficient impact and to enable it to respond satisfactorily to the priorities and needs expressed by Member States, voluntary sacrifices in respect of staff had been agreed to by PGI at the time when document 23 C/5 was being prepared, so as to propose an increased budget provision for its programme. As a result, after the abolition of five PGI posts, the staff costs for the programme were down to 21 per cent of the total budget at its disposal, i.e. the total funds from the regular programme, the participation programme and extra-budgetary programmes. That proportion did not take

account of the further staff deflation measures which would result from implementation of the proposals put forward by the Secretariat in document 23 C/6 Add.

(193) The savings thus made and the concentration of activities in the priority fields specified by the PGI Intergovernmental Council and the Executive Board, had made it possible to propose substantial increases in the funds allocated to archives activities, measures connected with the Regional Network for the Exchange of Information and Experience in Science and Technology in Asia and the Pacific (ASTINFO), the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP), and activities under Subprogramme VII.2.1 in general, relating to national information policies and infrastructures, and activities concerned with the training of information specialists and users.

(194) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support went on to summarize the essential features of the draft programme and budget of the PGI for 1986-1987. These were: (i) maintenance of the balance between the programme's different components, with greater attention to archives; (ii) recourse to both new technologies and traditional information-handling processes, with a special effort in support of modern technologies; (iii) high priority for training activities, with Subprogramme VII.2.2, concerned with training, alone being allocated 25 per cent of the appropriation for PGI, and other specialized training activities appearing under other subprogrammes; (iv) high priority also for activities aimed at establishing regional networks; (v) special attention to the development of infrastructures; and (vi) a clearly operational emphasis in the proposed activities. Lastly, he referred to the amendments to the Statutes of the Intergovernmental Council for PGI.

(195) The Assistant Director-General for General Programmes and Programme Support then described the activities proposed under Subprogramme VII.3.1, which were the responsibility of Unesco's library, archives and documentation services division (LAD). He reminded the Commission that those activities were

designed to strengthen the co-ordination of all the Organization's library, archives and documentation services, including those at established offices away from Headquarters, and also to provide training for national officials in computerized documentation techniques and the CDS/ISIS software used by Unesco and made available to Member States without charge. He mentioned that a new version of the software, adapted to mini and microcomputers was available.

(196) Mrs E. Törnudd (Finland), Chairman of the Intergovernmental Council for PGI then presented the Council's report (document 23 C/75). The Council provided guidance for the Secretariat in the devising and planning of the General Information Programme, and evaluated the progress made and results achieved by PGI. Mrs Törnudd described briefly what the Council had done at its fifth session (November 1984), where it had formulated guidelines for the preparation of the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987. At its last meeting (August 1985), the Bureau of the Council had felt that its guidelines were reflected in the draft document 23 C/5. While congratulating the Secretariat on the increase in the budget for the programme achieved through the savings made by the voluntary abolition of posts, the Bureau had expressed its deep concern about further possible staff cuts. Such cuts would have extremely serious consequences for the programme's coherence and its implementation. The Bureau had therefore instructed the Chairman to write to all the members of the Intergovernmental Council for PGI informing them of the situation. It was, in fact imperative to maintain an adequate staffing level for PGI. That programme, funding for which had always been considered too small in amount to cope with Member States' varied needs, should have the resources required to meet those needs. Mrs Törnudd also reported that the amendments to the Statutes of PGI, formulated by the Council at its fifth session, had been considered the previous week by the Legal Committee, which had recommended that the General Conference adopt them. Under the new amended Statutes, the Council would be authorized to seek voluntary financial or other contributions to supplement the resources available under PGI's regular budget. The Council could also recommend that the Director-General allocate contributions to PGI projects.

(197) Delegates of 45 Member States took part in the debate. The Commission also heard statements from the representatives of an intergovernmental organization, the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) and of three non-governmental organizations: the International Council on Archives (ICA), the International Federation for Documentation (FID) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

(198) All delegates expressed their support for this major programme, two of them judging it to be 'one of Unesco's best'. All also concurred in finding it

realistic and well designed; some welcomed the greater degree of concentration that had been achieved, pointing out that the targets and expected results of the major programme were better formulated and more precise than in the past, and that the programme actions were more clearly defined.

(199) The General Information Programme (PGI), which was responsible for the execution of Programmes VII.1 and VII.2, met with unanimous approval and support. While reaffirming the fundamental and decisive role of specialized information in the development process, as a means of increasing knowledge, mobilizing resources and mastering know-how, a great many delegates stressed the importance of the contribution made by the General Information Programme in that area. It not only helped to reduce disparities between developing and industrialized countries, but met the needs of Member States, and more particularly of the developing countries. One delegate nevertheless observed that, in his view, the very strong slant of the programme's activities towards the developing countries should not be allowed to obscure the industrialized countries' interest in it.

(200) The conception of the PGI programme, which was held to be rational and effectively structured to attain its goals, met with broad approval. In that context, one delegate considered that the degree of detail in the proposed programme and budget, while undoubtedly rendering them transparent, had the drawback of depriving the programme of the flexibility needed to take account of new requests from Member States and technical developments in the art. He hoped that the Director-General would introduce a measure of flexibility in that respect when putting the programme into effect. Most delegates commended the judicious balance struck in the distribution of activities between library science, documentation and archives services. One delegate, however, expressed concern at the strengthening of the libraries and archives components in the programme at the expense of scientific and technological information, to which greater attention should be paid. Most delegates also expressed their satisfaction with the sound balance between operational and intellectual activities and in the use of traditional information handling processes, on the one hand, and modern techniques on the other.

(201) Several delegates laid stress on the interdisciplinary and intersectoral character of the General Information Programme. Speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries as a whole, one delegate emphasized the need to keep PGI intact when the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme was launched (Subprogramme VI.3.1). In that connection, many delegates drew attention to the potential risk of duplication between the two intergovernmental programmes. They considered that the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme should concentrate on informatics as a science while PGI should continue to cover computerized information handling alone. They also believed that

the problem of transborder data flow, which had several facets, should be handled by both programmes, the aspect relating to the transfer of information coming under PGI and the technical aspects under the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme. At the same time, they wanted internal co-ordinating machinery to be set up within the Secretariat to ensure that the two programmes did not overlap. One delegate proposed a number of activities that could be carried out in collaboration between the two programmes; another suggested that the internal co-ordinating machinery should also cover Major Programme III. In that context, he regretted that PGI had been transferred to the General Activities and Programme Support Sector (PRS), while three other delegates welcomed that transfer.

(202) During the discussion, several delegates expressed concern over the budget and staff reductions, which might well affect the developing countries even more severely. Two delegates noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the Secretariat to increase funding for the programme by means of voluntary cuts in posts in the draft document 23 C/5. A number of delegates, while commending the satisfactory ratio of staff costs to budget provision for the programme in the draft document 23 C/5, concurred with the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme in its concern over the additional reductions in staff involved in the budget adjustments to be made after the General Conference (document 23 C/6 Add.). Those reductions would represent a real threat to the execution of the programme. In that connection, one delegate suggested recommending that the Director-general keep the staff of PGI at a level that would enable it to go on meeting Member States' expectations properly.

(203) Several delegates noted that the draft programme and budget took account of the recommendations made by the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme at its fifth session. They expressed their appreciation of the work of the Council and its Bureau and of the important part they played in the efficient execution of the programme. In the opinion of one delegate, the Council should look into the content of the programme at its next session with a view to the third Medium-Term Plan. Many delegates welcomed the amendments to the Council's Statutes, recommended by the Legal Committee for approval by the General Conference, which would enable it to seek voluntary extra-budgetary contributions. Many delegates were also in favour of continuing and developing co-operation between Unesco and the competent non-governmental professional associations for the execution of the programme.

(204) Lastly, one delegate stressed the desirability of organizing another UNISIST conference in the near future. In the seven years that had elapsed since the UNISIST II intergovernmental conference, new technologies had led to con-

siderable changes in data processing and in the image of the institutions and professions concerned. The next UNISIST conference might deal with the impact of the new technologies on national information policies.

(205) During the discussions on Programmes VII.1, VII.2 and VII.3, a large number of delegates stated that their respective countries were willing to cooperate in the execution of the activities planned under those programmes by hosting meetings, seminars, training courses and pilot projects and providing the support of their services, institutions and experts. Many delegates made requests for the aid, technical advice and financial support offered under the planned programmes for the execution of specific national and regional projects.

(206) Programme VII.1 (Improvement of access to information: modern technologies, standardization and interconnection of information systems) received the support of many delegates.

(207) With reference to Subprogramme VII.1.1 - Development of tools for the processing and transfer of information - a very large number of delegates drew attention to the fundamental importance of information processing standards, which were essential for the establishment of specialized high-performance information systems capable of exchanging and pooling their information. Two delegates pointed out that standardization activities underlay the strategy for the entire major programme and its successful execution depended on them. Many delegates called attention to the value of standardization activities for both, the developing and the industrialized countries. Several delegates mentioned their need for advisory services in connection with the use of standards and normative tools. One delegate regretted that the whole subprogramme had not received first priority while others would have liked to see specific activities receive larger budget provisions. Certain delegates wanted Unesco's co-operation with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), other relevant professional international non-governmental organizations in the field and with regional programmes which were developing and applying information-processing standards, to be stepped up. Some delegates expressed a wish to take part in the meetings of the subgroups of the Working Group on Methods, Norms and Standards and also their interest in the development and use of teaching modules relating to the application of standards. One delegate regretted that the preparation of a RAMP (Records and Archives Management Programme) guiding principle had been given second priority. A few delegates drew attention to the importance of bibliographic and terminological control and expressed their support for the International Centre for the Registration of Serials (CIEPS) and the International Information Centre for Terminology (INFOTERM). One delegate considered that the staff cost of that programme could be reduced by 15-20 per cent.

(208) Several delegates supported the activities relating to software packages and information technologies for the establishment of data bases, under Subprogramme VII.1.2 - Development and use of data bases through the application of modern technologies and normative tools. They drew attention to the rapid development of information technologies and the urgent need of the developing countries to modernize their information systems and master the use of informatics tools in that area, and they expressed their satisfaction with the assistance provided to those countries in connection with the selection of appropriate technologies and documentary software packages. The delegate of Austria recalled the offer made by his country at the twenty-second session of the General Conference to make available to the PGI the documentary software developed by the Institute of Machine Documentation (IMD), Graz, for use in the developing countries. He informed the Commission of the development of co-operation with Unesco in that field and, in particular, of the training course held in Graz in November-December 1984, which had brought together some 30 participants, mostly from the developing countries. The participants had all been interested in that software and had made recommendations regarding its improvement and dissemination. Several delegates wanted their specialists to take part in the International Conference on the Use of Microcomputers for Information Processing (Federal Republic of Germany, 1986) and in the post-conference training session. One delegate wanted such conferences to be organized at regional level. Several delegates welcomed the organization of a regional meeting in Latin America and the Caribbean for the exchange of experience on the development and management of automated data bases, and certain delegates wished it had been possible to hold a meeting of this type in Asia. Similarly, two delegates wished that it had been possible to supply micro-processing equipment to institutions in the developing countries.

(209) The delegate of India thanked Unesco for its continued support for the integrated project at the Institute of Oceanography in Goa. Some delegates from Latin America and the Caribbean regretted that the launching of a new integrated project in their region had been given second priority, and one also expressed regret that a series of international multi-country activities for the support of integrated projects had been similarly classified. One delegate requested the assistance of Unesco for an integrated project in his country.

(210) Very many delegates said that they were satisfied with the priority assigned to regional activities under Subprogramme VII.1.3 - Exchange and flow of information; regional and international co-operation among Member States and with the organizations of the United Nations system - as such activities promoted co-operation among several countries and encouraged them to study

together the solutions to common problems. Moreover, they made it possible to limit the dispersal of budgetary resources. The regional activities were widely supported by the delegates, some of them indicating that the results already obtained had been satisfactory and promising.

(211) Many delegates of the Asia and the Pacific region reiterated their support for the Regional Network for the Exchange of Information and Experience in Science and Technology in Asia and the Pacific (ASTINFO) and welcomed the fact that it had been assigned first priority in the draft programme and budget. Several delegates referred to ongoing or completed activities carried out under ASTINFO. All speakers on that subject wanted Unesco assistance for negotiating and obtaining United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) financing for specific projects to be carried out in the framework of ASTINFO. In that regard, some delegates favoured more feasibility studies to identify new projects, two speakers indicating that efforts should focus on the small countries of the Pacific in order to enable them to emerge from their isolation and to make up for their meagre information resources through participation in the Network's activities. Several delegates identified features and activities which needed to be strengthened in the framework of ASTINFO: these were mainly the training of specialists and the general modernization of the infrastructures, document supply services and archives services. Several delegates of the region offered to collaborate in the execution of certain ASTINFO activities. Thus, for example, the delegate of India proposed the establishment, with the help of Unesco, of a regional training centre for South-East Asia, and the delegate of Thailand proposed that his country act as host to the fifth consultative meeting of ASTINFO in 1987.

(212) Regional co-operation activities in Latin America and the Caribbean also received the support of very many delegates of that region. One delegate commended Unesco for the effective work carried out by the Regional Adviser for PGI in the region. Some delegates supported the activities proposed under the Regional Network for the Exchange of Information and Experience in Science and Technology in the Caribbean (CARSTIN). The Commission took note of the wish of Trinidad and Tobago for a follow up to a feasibility study carried out under PGI in the framework of CARSTIN, in the shape of the installation of a teleconferencing system that would make it possible to interconnect the various activities in the Caribbean with each other and with Unesco Offices for Latin America and the Caribbean. Several delegates referred to a recommendation of the Conference of Ministers responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (CASTALAC II), held in August 1985 in Brasilia, regarding the establishment of a regional network for the exchange of information and experience in science and technology to cover the entire region.

They proposed that all the activities planned for Latin America and the Caribbean, including activities carried out under CARSTIN, the programme of co-operation in the field of information in Latin America and the Caribbean (INFOLAC) and any other individual activities, should be designed and executed in that wider framework. They also hoped that the next programme and budget would make more substantial provision for the execution and consolidation of the network recommended by CASTALAC II.

(213) One delegate expressed support for the activities to provide technical assistance to the member countries of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). The representative of ALECSO regretted that regional activities in the Arab States had been given second priority and hoped for greater Unesco assistance to that region. Two delegates sought Unesco assistance to launch the second phase of a project for the cross-border exchange of data in south-eastern Europe, which they wished to extend in the future to the countries of the Mediterranean basin and the Arab countries.

(214) One delegate maintained that the results obtained from co-operation with the organizations of the United Nations system had thus far been modest. Another delegate, referring to the Global Network of Scientific and Technological Information recalled that Unesco's UNISIST programme had been the first to launch the idea of international co-operation in this field, and that Unesco was the best able among the organizations of the United Nations system to contribute most to the establishment of such a global network. One delegate also invited Unesco to co-operate in the execution of the project for a multi-sectoral information network for the Group of 77 (the non-aligned countries).

(215) Two delegates said that better co-ordination was required as regard harmonization with Unesco information services coming under other specialized major programmes.

(216) Subprogramme VII.2.1 - National information policies and infrastructures - also had the support of many delegates, who expressed their satisfaction with the budget provisions for the two parts of the programme.

(217) Several delegates expressed interest in national workshops for the adaptation of the guiding principles of information policies to national circumstances. One delegate considered that that type of realistic approach was a good example of the balance between reflection and action. The delegate of China told the Commission that his country was preparing for the national seminar on the harmonization of scientific and technological information policies. He also welcomed the provision for translation of the PGI brochure into Chinese.

(218) Several delegates stressed the importance of the services for the provision of documents, which were

indispensable complements of any modern information system. In that context the Finnish delegate, speaking for the Nordic countries (Denmark, Iceland, Sweden and Norway) reminded the Commission of the programme for the provision of basic scientific and technical literature to institutions in developing countries, launched at the twenty-second session of the General Conference. A project had since been prepared in collaboration with IFLA. Unesco would be welcome to help in raising extra-budgetary resources for implementation of that programme. Another delegate informed the Commission of the activities undertaken and provided for in his country in the context of the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) in collaboration with the IFLA.

(219) Several delegates spoke in support of activities to help Member States to set up and develop various kinds of libraries. One delegate drew attention to the important role that libraries had to play in education and to the need to prepare them to take on the role of organizers of educational and cultural activities. Another delegate welcomed the continuous support given to the pilot project on school and community libraries in the Pacific.

(220) The Records and Archives Management Programme (RAMP) and the related archive activities met with general approval, and the high priority accorded to them was appreciated. Several delegates welcomed the good results obtained to date in that programme. The studies and guiding principles that constitute an importance part of the programme continued to arouse the interest of most of the delegates. The organization, in co-operation with IFLA, and ICA, of a general world survey of the material condition of archives and library collections, conservation staff needs and methods and techniques of conservation and the preparatory activity for a Congress on the Preservation and Conservation of the Archival and Library Heritage of the World were supported, and the budget provisions made for them were considered justified.

(221) Two delegates expressed particular interest in the services on research in progress and in the exchange of experience in the design, establishment and utilization of data banks and on-line services.

(222) Most delegates expressed their satisfaction with the activities proposed in Subprogramme VII.2.2 - Training of information personnel and information users - and considered that the degree of priority and substantial share of the budget accorded to training activities were fully justified. Many delegates said that the basic and in-service training of information specialists was still a pressing problem in developing countries. Several of them believed that the organization of national and regional training courses and programmes had the greatest impact. Priority should of course be given to the training of teaching personnel, and, in view of the

rapidity of development in the field of information, large-scale retraining programmes continued to be necessary.

(223) Several delegates regretted that the activities relating to the collection and dissemination of information on training opportunities, as well as the publication of the bulletin dealing with that information, had been given second priority. They hoped that when the programme was being carried out, funds might be made available for those activities.

(224) Several delegates expressed interest in the assistance to be provided for establishment and development of national and regional training programmes in the field of information. Three of them supported the training activities proposed at ISTIC (the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China), Beijing, China, in connection with ASTINFO. The Commission noted the interest attached by Venezuela to the regional programme of postgraduate studies in information science which was being set up at the Simón Bolívar University in Caracas, as well as that country's wish to benefit from continuing and increased assistance in subsequent programmes.

(225) Several delegates announced that their respective countries were prepared to host international or regional study courses, seminars or courses of brief duration. One of the specific activities was a periodic course for the training of managers of information services and systems.

(226) Many delegates supported the proposed activities for the training of users. They stressed the vital importance of that training, one delegate even stressing the importance of the training of potential users.

(227) In connection with Programme VII.3 - Unesco information and documentation systems and services - many delegates expressed their support for Subprogramme VII.3.1 - Development of the documentation, library and archives services of Unesco.

(228) Some delegates pointed out that, because of the current budgetary restrictions, it would be necessary to reduce the budgets of the Organization's internal services, such as the Library, Archives and Documentation Services Division (LAD), in the same proportions as the other programmes. So far as that Division was concerned, they considered that staff costs were very high (80 per cent of the total allocated under Programme VII.3.1). One of those delegates, while acknowledging the importance for Member States as a whole of the activities undertaken under Subprogramme VII.3.1, hoped that the resources would be used to strengthen the links between the central library and the Organization's sectoral and regional documentation centres. One delegate drew attention to the considerable costs involved in the continual development of software, the production of new versions, and the setting up of an efficient system of distribution and maintenance. He hoped

that Unesco would make an assessment of the CDS/ISIS software by consulting its outside users before embarking on such an undertaking.

(229) Many delegates, on the other hand, stressed the importance of the CDS/ISIS software not only for their own countries but also for Member States as a whole and, in particular, for the developing countries. Most of those delegates mentioned that the CDS/ISIS software was used by institutions in their respective countries and that those institutions were co-operating with the Library, Archives and Documentation Services Division to improve, promote and distribute the software. They also stressed the need to continue training the users of the system. A number of speakers welcomed the adaptation of the CDS/ISIS software to mini- and micro-computers - a move that met the requirements of small information units in developing countries which were not able to finance the purchase of large computers but could in that way gain access to modern data-processing technologies. One delegate also stressed the importance of the system in the general context of national information networks.

(230) Another delegate told the Commission that a regional meeting of CDS/ISIS software users in Latin America and the Caribbean had recently been held in his country. He mentioned, among other things, the recommendation that the participants had addressed to Unesco, urging the Organization to continue and intensify its efforts to develop and maintain the CDS/ISIS software and to establish national and regional focal points for its distribution. Several delegates considered that the funds allocated for the CDS/ISIS software were small, and strenuously opposed any cutting of its budget. Some, in fact, wanted the funds to be increased. Thus the delegate of Argentina, supported by other delegations, requested an increase of 50 per cent in the resources allocated to the activities proposed in paragraphs 07306 and 07307, having recourse if necessary, to extra-budgetary resources and voluntary contributions.

(231) Two delegates spoke of the importance of deposit libraries for their countries, and expressed their satisfaction in that respect.

(232) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support replied to the observations made, questions asked and concerns expressed during the debate. He first thanked delegates for the encouraging remarks they had made about Major Programme VII, and said that the requests for, and offers of, co-operation had been noted by the Secretariat and would be most useful for carrying out the programme.

(233) On the question of the attachment of the General Information Programme (PGI) to the General Programmes and Programme Support Sector, he reminded the Commission that in the past, many suggestions had been made to the Director-General about the desirability

of bringing PGI closer to the Copyright and Statistics services. The transfer made satisfied these requests.

(234) With regard to possible duplication between PGI and the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, he said he would suggest to the Director-General that an intersectoral working group should be set up within the Secretariat to co-ordinate the activities of PGI, the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme and the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC). He also told delegates that the Chairman of the PGI Council was invited to take part in meetings of the Council of the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, and vice versa; and referred to document 22 C/19 (Impact of the Development of Informatics on Unesco's Programmes), paragraphs 22 and 23 which defined the fields of action of the PGI and the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme respectively.

(235) In reply to one delegate's comment that the PGI was aimed too much at the developing countries, he pointed out that structural and organizational inadequacy in terms of archives and documentation was in fact one aspect of underdevelopment. He instanced, in that respect, the case of Africa, which was by definition a continent without material archives. In those circumstances, it was logical that more intensive efforts should be made on behalf of the developing countries. He drew attention, however, to the constant and sustained interest in the PGI shown by the industrialized countries, referring to some 300 requests for material produced by the PGI received each week from institutions, mostly in the industrialized countries, and to the large number of those countries taking part in the Intergovernmental Council of the PGI and in the various meetings and congresses organized by that programme.

(236) He went on to say how pleased he was at the excellent co-operation between Unesco and the non-governmental organizations working in the fields of library science, documentation and archives management. In that context, he pointed out that, in addition to the subventions included in the programme and budget documents, the PGI was carrying out activities directly under contract with one or other of those organizations. Those contracts had amounted in 1984-1985, for example, to \$152,200 for the International Council on Archives (ICA), \$112,000 for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and \$61,000 for the International Federation for Documentation (FID).

(237) Turning to the second-priority grading in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 of the activity relating to the collection and dissemination of information on training opportunities, to be carried out in co-operation with FID, he assured the delegates who were concerned by the situation that the Secretariat would do its utmost, when carrying out the programme, to find the necessary amount under Subprogramme VII.2.2.

(238) The Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support then thanked the Arab Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) for the interest it had shown in the activities coming under Major Programme VII, and noted its desire that a greater share of the activities should be directed towards the Arab States. He pointed out that the activities scheduled for that region in the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 should be understood as being supplementary to those already in hand both at the national and at the international level, citing by way of examples the following projects: data base for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia; Scientific Documentation Centre in Baghdad (Iraq); School of Information Science in Rabat (Morocco); Documentation Centre of the Arab League (ALDOC) in Tunis (Tunisia); and Arabization Study and Research Institute (IERA) in Rabat (Morocco). He also reminded the Commission that the Executive Board, at its 121st session, had decided to upgrade to first priority three activities concerning the Arab countries which were originally ranked as second priority.

(239) Regarding the proposal made by the United Kingdom (submitted in 23 C/DR.143) to make cuts in the budget for Programme VII.3, he said that the adjustments planned by the Secretariat in pursuance of 121 EX/Decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board already made provision for a \$515,500 reduction in this programme. For the most part, the cuts affected staff costs (\$297,000), the remainder being deductions from the budget for the programme under paragraphs 07305 and 07307 (\$133,000) and for the participation programme under Programme VII.3 (\$85,500). In his view, the concern expressed by the delegate of the United Kingdom and by those delegates who had supported him, to the effect that Programme VII.3 should not be spared at a time of budgetary restriction, was no longer justified since the Secretariat had already taken the relevant initiative. The Deputy Director-General then gave explanations about the items of expenditure provided for under paragraphs 07305 and 07307 covering normal expenditure for the library, archives and documentation service and the Unesco Integrated Documentary Network. As to placing the activities of the LAD Division under Part II.A (major programmes) instead of Part II.B, as one delegate would have wished, he recalled that the activities of PGI and LAD were complementary, since both services adopted the same tools and approaches, with the activities of the one being directed towards Member States while those of the other were chiefly oriented towards the Secretariat. However, the CDS/ISIS software used in the Secretariat was also employed by numerous external national and international institutions, and this had prompted the Secretariat to use it on computers of relatively moderate size and cost (mini- and micro-computers) so that it could be used more widely by Member States.

Decisions on draft resolutions relating to Major Programme VII

A. Draft resolution withdrawn

(240) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.166 was withdrawn by its sponsor in the light of the observations made by the Director-General.

B. Draft resolutions of which the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note

(a) Draft resolutions without budgetary implications

(241) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.96 and invite the Director-General to take account of it, as far as possible, in the execution of the approved programme.

(242) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.157 and invite the Director-General to take account of it, as far as possible, during the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the execution of the approved programme.

(243) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.255 and invite the Director-General to take account of it, as far as possible, in the implementation of the approved programme.

(b) Draft resolutions with budgetary implications

(244) The draft resolutions with budgetary implications were approved by the Commission.

(245) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.3, allocating for this purpose a sum of \$10,000 to be taken from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(246) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommends that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.4 allocating for the purpose a sum of \$25,000 to be taken from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(247) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.36, allocating for the purpose a sum of \$20,000 to be taken from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(248) At the request of its sponsor,

23 C/DR.143 was referred to the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(249) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.167, allocating for this purpose a sum of \$5,000 to be taken from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(c) Draft resolution recommended under 'Blocked Funds'

(250) Bearing in mind the observations of the Director-General, the Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of 23 C/DR.35 and invite the Director-General to pay special attention to the activity concerned, which is included in Part IX of the Budget entitled 'Blocked Funds', subject to the subsequent availability of voluntary contributions.

C. Draft resolution constituting an amendment to the proposed resolution in document 23 C/5

(251) The Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt 23 C/DR.132 which amended the proposed resolution by the insertion of a new subparagraph 5 after subparagraph 4 and the modification of the following subparagraph (new paragraph 6) (see 23 C/Resolution 7.1). The delegates of Canada, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed reservations, however, about this draft resolution being recommended to the General Conference.

D. Work plan

(252) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the Work Plan for Major Programme VII contained in paragraphs 07101 to 07404.

E. Appropriations

(253) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve under the regular programme for Programmes VII.1, VII.2 and VII.3 and the participation programme the budget provision of \$10,330,600 (paragraph 07001 of document 23 C/5), after placing in reserve under Part IX of the Budget (Blocked Funds) a sum of \$3,289,500 for second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, on the understanding that these budget provisions may be modified in the light of adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds that may be allocated to Major Programme VII from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which may be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 6.6 - DESIRABILITY OF ADOPTING AN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT ON THE PROTECTION OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE AGAINST NATURAL DISASTERS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES

(254) In introducing item 6.6 the Assistant Director-General for Culture recalled that, at its 22nd session, the General Conference, by resolution 11.3 had requested the Director-General to study the question of whether a new standard-setting instrument was necessary on the protection of the cultural heritage against natural disasters or whether it would be possible to achieve the same results through existing instruments. The study on this question, which had been submitted to the Executive Board at its 122nd session, was contained in Annex III to document 23 C/31. The Assistant Director-General indicated that during the debate at the Programme and External Relations Commission of the Executive Board, the vast majority of the speakers of the Commission had endorsed the conclusions and proposals formulated in the study, and, in particular had agreed that the existing instruments did not fully ensure protection against natural disasters and that specific provisions on the question should be elaborated. Agreement had also been expressed at the Commission to the proposal made in the study to revise the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property endangered by Public or Private Works adopted in 1968, as soon as adequate means become available, in order to include provisions on protection against natural disasters. In concluding, the Assistant Director-General drew attention to the report on the discussion in the Commission, which constituted Annex II to document 23 C/31, and to the decision taken by the Executive Board on this question, which was given in Annex I to the same document.

(255) During the debate which followed, in which 16 delegates took part, several delegates drew attention to the extensive damage caused to the cultural heritage by natural disasters, with some referring to the recent earthquake which had struck Mexico and others describing the magnitude of the damage suffered by their own countries as a result of a natural disaster. Two delegates underlined the importance of taking preventive action and specific reference was made to the need to undertake photographic and photogrammetric inventories of cultural property. In the view of one of these delegates, who informed the Commission of the proposed establishment in Europe of a specialized international emergency service which would take action in the event of a natural disaster, Unesco could promote international solidarity for the protection of the cultural heritage against natural disasters by preparing international norms on the question.

(256) The vast majority of delegates who took the floor shared the viewpoint that international standards on this question should be worked out. Two of

these delegates stated that they attached special importance to the standard-setting activities of the Organization on the protection of the cultural heritage. One of them underlined the fact that this work promoted the law-building process in this field throughout the world. On the other hand, one delegate considered that other activities and particularly operational action should have priority over standard-setting action. On the question of protection against natural disasters, there was general agreement among the delegates that the existing conventions and recommendations did not fully cover this issue.

(257) However, in the view of many speakers, it was not necessary to prepare a separate international instrument on this question. In this connection three delegates expressed their concern at the undue proliferation of standard-setting instruments for the protection of the cultural heritage and these delegates, together with many others, endorsed the proposal made in document 23 C/31 that an existing instrument, namely the Recommendation concerning the Preservation of Cultural Property endangered by Public or Private Works, adopted in 1968, should be revised in order to include provisions on protection against natural disasters. One delegate expressed doubt, however, that the 1968 Recommendation was the most appropriate instrument in which to incorporate provisions on natural disasters; he feared that this Recommendation which advocated a number of concrete measures to preserve cultural property threatened by public or private works, would lose its unity and he considered that further study was necessary to ascertain the most appropriate way in which to provide for protection against natural disasters which called for a more flexible approach. Another delegate, who also queried the choice of the 1968 Recommendation, considered that the provisions to be elaborated on protection against natural disasters should not be limited to the cultural heritage but should also cover the natural heritage.

(258) In reply to some of the concerns expressed above, one delegate indicated that the question of preparing standards on the protection of the cultural heritage against natural disasters had been under consideration for several years and that the proposal to revise the 1968 Recommendation had been made only after a thorough study of all existing instruments. He drew attention to the discussion of this matter in the Programme and External Relations Commission of the Executive Board during which, by a large majority, the members of the Commission had endorsed the proposal of the Secretariat to adapt an existing instrument rather than prepare a new standard-setting instrument. Another delegate disagreed with the statement of a previous speaker

that the 1968 Recommendation would lose its effect if provisions on natural disasters were included therein.

(259) As to the timing of this work, all those speakers who referred to this question agreed with the proposal embodied in the decision of the Executive Board, namely that, since due to the limited resources available in 1986-1987, it would not be possible to embark on this work during the forthcoming financial period, provision for this activity should be included in a future draft programme and budget as soon as adequate means become available. In this connection, one delegate emphasized that, during the present period of financial difficulties which Unesco was experiencing, close attention should be paid to proposed expenditure which should be evaluated in terms of expected yield. This delegate, as well as several others, agreed that the limited resources available should be directed, on a priority basis, towards activities related to the implementation of existing instruments, as was stated in the draft resolution proposed by the Executive Board.

(260) In these circumstances and given the long process that the revision of the 1968 Recommendation would entail, to which one speaker referred, several delegates endorsed the recommendation made by the Executive Board that a consolidated list of those provisions of existing conventions and recommendations which would be applicable for protection against natural disasters should be drawn up by the Director-General and brought to the attention of Member States.

(261) Three delegates emphasized the importance of the other standard-setting activities mentioned in document 23 C/31. The proposal to prepare a Code for the Protection of Cultural Property was welcomed in particular.

(262) Three delegates proposed specific amendments to the draft resolution which had been proposed by the Executive Board. One delegate proposed on the one hand the addition of the words 'to continue to study the question and if possible' after the words 'invites the Director-General' in the first operative paragraph, and on the other hand, the

inclusion of the phrase 'as soon as possible' in the second operative paragraph. Another delegate proposed to widen the scope of the provisions to be prepared to cover the natural heritage. A third delegate proposed the addition of an operative paragraph to the draft resolution requesting 'the Director-General to continue the examination of the feasibility of codifying the provisions of all conventions and recommendations relating to the protection of the cultural heritage'.

(263) In his reply to the debate, the Assistant Director-General recalled the procedure to be followed for the revision of the 1968 Recommendation, during which Member States would have several opportunities to comment on the scope and contents of the revised text. He assured the Commission that the Secretariat would do its utmost to prepare a flexible and harmonious text. The Assistant Director-General described some of the activities other than standard-setting undertaken by the Organization for the protection of the cultural heritage damaged or threatened by natural disasters. With respect to the proposal to extend the scope of the provisions to be worked out to the natural heritage, he indicated that it was the General Conference at its twenty-first session which had requested the Director-General to prepare a preliminary study on the technical and legal aspects of the preservation of the cultural heritage against disasters and that no mention was made of the natural heritage in that context. As to the work on codification, the Assistant Director-General indicated that as soon as adequate means became available, the Secretariat had the intention of embarking on this activity, the urgency of which was fully recognized.

(264) Following the explanations of the Assistant Director-General, the amendments to the draft resolution made by two delegates were withdrawn. A modified version of the amendment proposed by the third delegate to the first operative paragraph was accepted by the Commission which also accepted the amendment proposed by the same delegate to the second operative paragraph (see 23 C/Resolution 11.2).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.3 - JERUSALEM AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 22 C/RESOLUTION 11.8

(265) The Chairman gave the floor to the Assistant Director-General for Culture, who introduced document 23 C/15, 'Jerusalem and the implementation of 22 C/Resolution 11.8'. In pursuance of that resolution, the Director-General had sent his personal representative, Professor Raymond Lemaire, to Jerusalem from 21 to 27 July 1984 and from 5 to 9 March 1985. On the basis of those two missions, reports had been made to the Executive Board at its 120th and 121st sessions on developments in the situation regarding cultural property in Jerusalem, particularly with reference to the effects of the digging of a tunnel along

the west wall of the Haram al-Sharif and the stability of the Madrasa Al-Manjakiyya. The decisions which the Executive Board adopted in that connection were reproduced in document 23 C/15, in which the Director-General submitted to the General Conference all the information at his disposal concerning the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of Jerusalem. In conclusion, the speaker stressed that the Director-General would continue to do everything within his power to ensure that the resolutions of the General Conference and the decisions of the Executive Board relating to the safeguarding of the universal heritage of

Jerusalem were put into effect.

(266) The Chairman thanked the Assistant Director-General for Culture and read out draft resolution 23 C/COM.IV/DR.1 Rev.2 which had been submitted by 13 Member States. Ten other delegates asked to be considered as co-authors of the draft resolution during the discussion, in which 24 delegates and the representative of ALECSO took part.

(267) The draft resolution was introduced by one of those authors who, on behalf of all of them, suggested adding at the beginning of paragraph 15 the following phrase: 'Thanks the Director-General for all he has done in this respect and requests him ...'. He then explained his two reasons for taking part in the discussion. The first was that Israel continued to occupy Jerusalem, declaring it as its capital in violation of the resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the decisions of the Security Council and was also continuing its assaults on the historic monuments of the city in defiance of the resolutions of Unesco. Secondly, he wished to draw attention to the very special interest shown in that eternal city, which was an integral part of world cultural heritage, both historical and spiritual. The speaker went on to say that the holy places of Jerusalem were the common heritage of the three monotheistic religions, whilst for Muslims they were the third holy place and the corner-stone of the ancient and modern heritage of Islam. The city was the cradle of Christianity and it was from there that the Christian message of love and brotherhood between men had gone forth. He drew attention to the fact that that outstanding city was also the symbol of the continuing existence of the Palestinian people, which had been driven from its national home. Israel was engaging in the cultural assault on Jerusalem, burying gems of architecture beneath ugly tower-blocks. He added that Israel was attempting to transform the holy city by means of modern urban planning and was damaging its indigenous architectural character. The speaker also referred to the threat posed by the presence of tunnels under the Haram al-Sharif, and he recalled that Israel should respect the Hague and Geneva Conventions and the resolutions of Unesco relating to the safeguarding of that universal heritage. Finally, the speaker asked the Commission to adopt the proposed resolution and stated that its authors had been guided by their sense of moderation and, as believers in dialogue, had shown goodwill in order to work for the protection of Jerusalem.

(268) Most of the delegates who spoke in the discussion gave their total support to draft resolution 22 C/COM.IV/DR.1 Rev.2, which had deliberately been made moderate in order to achieve a consensus, and they paid tribute to the Director-General for his efforts to ensure the implementation of 22 C/Resolution 11.8, and to Professor Lemaire whose scientific qualities and objectivity were unanimously recognized. Most of those

speakers denounced the threats to the cultural monuments of the city of Jerusalem and spoke opprobriously of the violation by Israel of the Muslims' holy places.

(269) Speaking on behalf of the 10 Member States of the European Community and two other States, one delegate paid tribute to Professor Lemaire for his objective account of the situation of the cultural heritage in Jerusalem and stated his conviction that, owing in part to his skilful work and valuable recommendations, decisions had been taken which were necessary to avoid further damage. He welcomed the fact that the draft resolution reflected that appreciation and also that it was couched in moderate terms. Due account had been taken of observations made by members of the group he represented and of their wish to avoid the adoption of politicized resolutions. He was able to announce that, for the first time at a General Conference, that group of States was in favour of a resolution on Jerusalem, and he hoped that it could be adopted by consensus. Another delegate of the same group of countries stated his appreciation of the wisdom, moderation and balance of the statement made in presentation of the draft resolution as well as of the emphasis laid on the oecumenical vocation of the city, and also hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus. Another speaker stated that, in view of the importance of protecting the heritage of mankind and the significance of Jerusalem for the three major revealed religions, his country was ready to join in the consensus on the draft resolution.

(270) The delegate of Israel paid tribute to Professor Lemaire for his objective report which, he affirmed, reflected the true situation in Jerusalem. He stated that, while Professor Lemaire had enumerated the positive actions taken by the Israeli authorities, the draft resolution deplored the works carried out in the city which had imperilled historical monuments. The delegate then quoted from several paragraphs of Professor Lemaire's report. For the delegate, all the achievements referred to in the report could only have been accomplished with the help and agreement of the Israeli authorities. The delegate asked what was the vocation of Unesco if it was not to encourage and promote understanding between the different parties, and he noted that Professor Lemaire had referred to the will that existed on both sides to resolve problems. However, whereas document 121 EX/11 stated that 'all excavations have been halted in Jerusalem', the General Conference and the Executive Board continued to deliberate and to deplore and, in the opinion of the delegate, this could only be prejudicial to Unesco. The delegate stated that if certain States persisted in using the Organization as a forum for political struggle, it was time they realized that it was detrimental to Unesco, whose credibility and sense of

responsibility was at stake. In concluding his statement, the delegate of Israel declared that the draft resolution was unacceptable to his country and he called on other delegates who respected the truth to join him in casting a negative vote.

(271) Some delegates, refuting the arguments adduced by the delegate of Israel, claimed that work carried out in the old quarters of Jerusalem under the pretext of restoration really aimed to drive out the indigenous owners. One speaker noted that the hospice that had just been evacuated was not only a centre for medical care but also a monument of cultural value that ought to be preserved. Its closure formed part of the process of Judaization aimed at obliterating the Arab character of the city. One of the delegates, associating himself with the draft resolution, said that his country had in past centuries established special arrangements for the holy places of Jerusalem that guaranteed free access for all believers and would be worth studying. A number of delegates noted that the World Heritage Committee had included the site on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1982, a fact which helped to justify their concern over the unique cultural property in the city, in particular after the many times it had been affected by archaeological excavations, the digging of a tunnel beneath the Haram al-Sharif and even attacks on those sites by groups using army explosives, as in January 1984.

(272) Three other delegates also expressed their full agreement with the proposed draft resolution and noted that Israel had been occupying Arab territories, including Jerusalem, since 1967

and failed to comply with the resolutions and decisions adopted by international bodies such as the United Nations, within which the matter had been the subject of fruitless discussion since 1968. Two of them expressed their gratitude to the Director-general and their appreciation of Professor Lemaire's extremely valuable work. One of the latter speakers considered that the matter on the agenda was indeed within Unesco's competence, as was that of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories. Another speaker pointed out that the solution to the two issues was closely bound up with the overall solution of the Middle East conflict.

(273) The Chairman then put to the vote the draft resolution with the oral amendment of paragraph 18 made by one of the co-sponsors. The Commission recommended by 90 votes to 2, with 3 abstentions, that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/COM.IV/DR.1 Rev.2 as amended (see 23 C/Resolution 11.3).

(274) Two delegates explained their vote, stating that they would have preferred a text which contained less excessive language, but they voted in favour of the draft resolution because its implementation would be based on Professor Lemaire's report and because it concerned essentially the preservation of the historical and monumental heritage of the city of Jerusalem. One of these delegates, speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries, also indicated that their support of the draft resolution did not mean that they endorsed previous resolutions which they had not supported. The other delegate stated also that his country would have preferred a text which would not have singled out one State.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.4 - WORLD DECADE FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

(275) The Commission devoted its seventeenth meeting to consideration of agenda item 4.4 concerning the Draft Plan of Action for the World Decade for Cultural Development (document 23 C/16), submitted by the Director-General in pursuance of resolution 11.20 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session.

(276) In his introduction, the Assistant Director-General for Culture informed the Commission of the results of the consultation conducted by the Director-General with the Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, and other international inter-governmental organizations, in order to inform them of the proposal to proclaim a World Decade for Cultural Development and obtain their suggestions concerning the Draft Plan of Action.

(277) Analysing the results of the consultation, he said that the proposal had been generally very well received.

(278) Speaking of the general features of the Draft Plan of Action, the Assistant Director-General recalled the

four main objectives of the Decade: the acknowledgement of the cultural dimension of development; the affirmation of cultural identities; the broadening of participation in culture; and the promotion of international cultural co-operation.

(279) He then briefly mentioned the main types of action which could be envisaged for the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Decade: experimental activities and pilot projects, training, information, standard-setting action, and research. He further specified the possible role of the various partners in the Decade, the timetable of operations for the Decade, and the co-ordination structures and working methods envisaged for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

(280) The Assistant Director-General finally emphasized the flexible and open-ended character of the Draft Plan of Action. Document 23 C/16 presented a series of proposals which were by no means binding but were intended to make it easier for the various partners

concerned to select the activities and to take the initiatives which most closely matched their areas of concern, their aspirations and their capacities, and which seemed to them best able to strengthen cultural development as an essential component of the development of individuals and societies.

(281) Thirty-four speakers - 27 delegates of Member States, two representatives of intergovernmental organizations and five representatives of non-governmental organizations - took part in the debate.

(282) During the debate, all speakers expressed their support for the proclamation of a World Decade for Cultural Development. In this connection, several of them recalled the unanimous approval for that proposal at the World Conference on Cultural Policies (Recommendation No. 27) and at the twenty-second session of the General Conference (resolution 11.20). Others referred to the support given to this initiative at the 42nd session of the Council of Ministers and the 21st Summit of Heads of State or Government of the Organization of African Unity (Addis Ababa, July 1985), and at the Eighth Regional Conference of National Commissions for Unesco for Latin America and the Caribbean (Caracas, 1985).

(283) Some speakers thought the Decade would be one of the most important ventures launched by Unesco during the 40 years of its existence. It would help to restore cultural and human values to their central place in economic and social development, thereby contributing to the efforts to find appropriate answers to the questions societies were asking themselves as the year 2000 approached, particularly in relation to the quality of life, the place of culture in the life of communities, the ultimate goals of development and international relations and peace.

(284) Several speakers restated their approval of the four objectives of the Decade, emphasizing their relevance to contemporary world problems and the thought which Unesco had given to the matter. Most speakers welcomed the way in which the Draft Plan of Action linked the proposals made by Member States and international organizations around those objectives. Endorsing the main lines and major proposals of the Draft Plan, they considered the document 23 C/16 submitted by the Director-General formed a useful framework and an excellent basis for the continuation of consultations leading to the finalization of the Plan of Action.

(285) It was generally considered that Unesco would have a key part to play in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Decade, even if the action to be taken in that context went beyond the Organization's own fields of competence. On this subject, several delegates wished the roles and competence of the various partners, and more especially Unesco, to be more clearly defined.

(286) The Decade offered Unesco an opportunity to review and strengthen its

work in the cultural field. A few delegates pointed out that the resources allocated to the plan did not match up to the importance accorded to it as a matter of principle.

(287) Several delegations noted the close connection between Unesco's programme and the lines of emphasis of the Decade, stressing that, apart from being an extension in time and space of activities carried out at Unesco, the Decade should also make it possible for innovative projects to be undertaken and executed. Several speakers emphasized the need to link the implementation of the Decade with that of the next Medium-Term Plan and the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

(288) While supporting the principle of the Decade and underlining its willingness to co-operate in efforts to achieve a consensus, one delegation expressed reservations about the formulation of the Draft Plan of Action as presented in document 23 C/16. In its opinion, the Draft was not precise enough and its ambitions appeared to be too grandiose and unrealistic. It also stressed the need to avoid any formulation that might lead to politicization of the Decade, or might be interpreted as a restriction of the freedom of information or expression, or even as dirigiste intervention in cultural life. Lastly, it expressed the hope that the trends towards concentration that prevailed in the 23 C/5 would be reflected in the Plan of Action.

(289) Reservations were also expressed by several speakers regarding the preparation of new standard-setting instruments. Any new measure relating to standing-setting action should be preceded by in-depth preparatory studies and, where appropriate, an evaluation of the application of those instruments already adopted.

(290) With regard to the main lines of emphasis of the Draft Plan of Action, many delegations laid stress on problems of the cultural dimension of development. Without belittling the importance of economic growth, which is essential to social progress and the improvement of living conditions, several speakers strongly criticized a concept of development reducing it to its economic aspects and applying criteria of profitability, while disregarding the cultural and human dimensions of economic and social change. One speaker noted that economic development was meaningless if it did not help to improve the quality of life and enhance respect for human dignity. If economic and technological progress failed to take account of cultural realities, it might well be accompanied by a deterioration in people's living conditions. In this connection, the problems of population growth, the environment and urbanization were raised. Many speakers also stressed the need to compile directories and make surveys of research and projects carried out in Unesco and other institutions, on the problems concerned and possible ways of solving them. It was also necessary to

seek ways and means, and methodological tools in particular, for taking cultural components effectively into account in development strategies and the planning process and in attempts to find appropriate technologies. Much incomplete knowledge on the subject was available. It needed to be integrated into an interdisciplinary approach. The training of decision-makers and planners and the stimulation of their awareness of cultural problems were also seen as an essential pre-condition for the strengthening of the cultural dimension of development.

(291) Cultural identity seen as the key to the self-fulfilment of individuals and societies had to be preserved and the conditions provided for its continual development and enrichment, in particular by the stimulation of creativity and of intercultural communication.

(292) Several speakers also mentioned participation in cultural life, seen as a basic pre-condition for cultural democracy and the development of creativity, and as an important instrument for development. Many delegations and international organizations were particularly concerned that women and young people should be as closely involved as possible in the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Decade. Young people, it was pointed out, needed to be seen not only as beneficiaries but above all as active participants in the Decade. In that connection, their cultural and aesthetic education deserved the most careful attention. Speaking of culturally disadvantaged groups, the delegation of Finland, on behalf of the Nordic group wished special attention to be given to the cultural needs and problems of migrant workers and refugees.

(293) Several delegates of Member States and representatives of non-governmental organizations laid stress on the essential role to be assigned to creative work and creativity in the Plan of Action for the Decade. The role of the non-governmental organizations concerned with artistic creation was described as vital to the channels of creative expression, and their professional activity in regard to training and in arousing interest among the public was recognized. Some delegates hoped that the programme concerning creation and creativity would be strengthened and would give rise to a wide-ranging consultation among artists and their organizations, while other delegates stated that the Plan did not take enough account of the role of the artist. One speaker felt that, when cultural matters were discussed, there was a tendency in many societies today for artists to be neglected as active figures in culture and the arts and for their role to be considered from a sociological standpoint, whereas they were endeavouring to transcend the limits of perception and were striving to furnish new views of the world. Two speakers wondered whether the Plan of Action for the Decade would be able to provide artists with new financial resources and new means of

action. The Budapest Cultural Forum was regarded by some speakers as a model of co-operation in promoting encounters and meetings among artists. Lastly, some delegates hoped that the programme would not run counter to the freedom of the artist, which was essential to his creative production.

(294) The promotion of international cultural co-operation involving the development of mutually enriching dialogue and balanced exchanges between cultures was referred to by several speakers as a basic necessity for the strengthening of peace, international understanding and respect for human rights. In that connection, repeated references were made to the fact that that objective was closely related to the basic principles of Unesco's Constitution.

(295) In addition to general comments, many proposals were put forward with regard to specific activities to be included or to be strengthened in the Plan of Action. Reference was made in this connection to the relationship between creative work and cultural industries, the problems of harmonization, methodologies for compiling inventories concerning the physical heritage, and the study and preservation of folklore.

(296) Several speakers dealt in detail with the question of the procedures and means to be employed for the preparation and carrying out of the Plan of Action, drawing attention to the difficult task, both nationally and internationally, of securing the co-operation of parties that were not directly concerned by the Decade's objectives. One speaker hoped that careful consideration would be given to the establishment of any new administrative or financial machinery, so as to avoid any duplication. With a view to ensuring balanced participation by all regions and effective co-ordination among Member States, two delegations brought up the possibility of setting up an inter-governmental programme in connection with the Decade.

(297) A few speakers would have liked to have some information about the budgetary implications of carrying out the Plan of Action. They were concerned about whether the necessary resources would really be available to carry out the project at a time when the Organization was obliged to reduce its budget and its staff.

(298) Two delegations announced that their governments intended to look into the possibilities of making resources available to Unesco to facilitate the preparation and implementation of the Decade. Many speakers considered it essential to call upon the National Commissions and international non-governmental organizations. Several speakers asked for the Decade to be accompanied by a large-scale campaign to inform the public, arouse their interest and mobilize their support, so that every country, every community and every individual would feel they had a stake in

its success.

(299) The timetable for the preparatory work recommended for the proclamation and launching of the Decade was referred to by several speakers, almost all of whom were in favour of keeping 1988 as the date for launching the Decade, taking the necessary steps to enable the United Nations General Assembly to reach a decision on the subject at its forty-first session in the autumn of 1986. It was suggested that a revised version of the Draft Plan of Action should be submitted to the Executive Board at its 124th session, prior to its submission to the Economic and Social Council.

(300) At the conclusion of the debate, the Assistant Director-General for Culture summed up the main points of the discussion. He noted the Commission's support for the Draft Plan of Action and thanked the delegations which had offered

contributions by their governments to the work needed to finalize and carry out the Plan of Action. Finally, he replied to questions raised during the debate, with particular reference to the interpretation of the term 'development model', the problems of creative work and of the artist, the role of Unesco in implementing the Decade, and the co-ordination machinery and standard-setting activities.

(301) After the reply by the Assistant Director-General for Culture, the Chairman of the Commission read out draft resolution 23 C/COM.IV/DR.4, submitted following a meeting of an ad hoc working group by France, Mexico, India, the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany. The Commission then recommended by consensus that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/COM.IV/DR.4 as amended (see 23 C/Resolution 11.10).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 16 - MAJOR PROGRAMME XI:
CULTURE AND THE FUTURE (PROGRAMME XI.1)

Programme XI.1: Cultural heritage

(302) The Commission devoted four meetings, on 28 and 29 October 1985, to consideration of this unit.

(303) Introducing Programme XI.1 relating to the cultural heritage, the Assistant Director-General for Culture said that the work Unesco had been doing for many years past had persuaded the international community to regard both the physical and non-physical expressions of the peoples' creativity as together forming part of the universal heritage. A broader conception of the heritage had become necessary precisely in order not to overlook the vast area of the non-physical heritage reflected in Sub-programme XI.1.1. The Assistant Director-General for Culture pointed out that that subprogramme represented a response to resolution 11.2, adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, which invited the Director-General to 'broaden activities to preserve the non-physical heritage in future programmes'.

(304) Stressing in that connection that international co-operation for the safeguarding of the cultural heritage had been considerably strengthened, the Assistant Director-General for Culture mentioned the increased participation of Member States in the three international conventions adopted under Unesco's auspices: 113 out of 160 Member States and three non-Member States had already acceded to one or more of those conventions.

(305) The Assistant Director-General for Culture presented draft Programme XI and its budget, pointing out that, for purposes of concentration and in accordance with the recommendations of the Executive Board, the activities which had formerly been covered by Sub-programme XI.1.1 in document 22 C/5 had been incorporated into the six sub-programmes put forward under Pro-

gramme XI.1 in document 23 C/5. He drew the attention of delegates to the three documents prepared for their information, namely, the Report of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (document 23 C/86), the Report by the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation (document 23 C/87), and document 23 C/INF.25 (In-depth study carried out by the Special Committee of the Executive Board on International Campaigns for the Preservation and Safeguarding of the Cultural Heritage of Mankind).

(306) The protection of the cultural heritage of mankind had become one of the responsibilities in which the international community had the most immediate share. He went on to say that priority had been given to technical co-operation for Cyprus, the safeguarding of the cultural heritage of the Palestinian people, and the preservation of the city and site of Jerusalem.

(307) He pointed out that the success of the efforts made depended first of all on the strengthening of national institutions and national services responsible for the heritage. The aim was to make the best use of existing facilities and resources and, in co-operation with specialized governmental and non-governmental institutions, to increase the number of properly trained staff. The Assistant Director-General for Culture also said that an important place had been given in the draft programme and budget to promotion work and activities designed to arouse the public's interest, so that people might gain a better understanding of their own and other peoples' heritage and play an active part in safeguarding it.

(308) The Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its

Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation, H.E. Mr Luis Villoro Toranzo, then presented that Committee's report.

(309) The Chairman stated that, during the first stage of its work, the Committee had achieved three essential results - the increasingly favourable attitude towards the idea of returning cultural property to the countries of origin, the clearer legal basis for the Committee's work, and the approval of the basic document essential for any request for the return of property. The Chairman concluded that the second stage which lay before it should be based on the results achieved and might, through a sustained effort of negotiation, help to bring about the return of cultural property requested by countries of origin.

General discussion

(310) The discussion which followed the presentation of Programme XI.1 was marked by whole-hearted approval of its content by all the delegations present and by a determination to contribute to its implementation. The 76 delegates who spoke made a point of thanking the Director-General and the Secretariat for the work done and for the clear and concise presentation of the programme.

(311) Most of the delegates stressed that the programme relating to the cultural heritage was one of Unesco's most important undertakings. Many delegates, who considered that recognition of the importance of the cultural heritage was a logical implication of the cultural demands of the peoples themselves, said that that programme was at all events the one which gave the Organization its distinctive image. Certain delegates, bearing in mind the major principles already set forth by Unesco, considered that the very title of the programme gave a sufficient indication of the link that should exist between culture as the heir of the past and culture looking towards the world of today and tomorrow. They added that the heritage was perceived as a vital component of man's environment and an invaluable source of inspiration for contemporary creative work.

(312) Many delegates spoke of the efforts being made by their countries for the preservation of the cultural heritage, and at the same time appealed to the international community, to Unesco and to organizations such as the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), to help them to identify, list, preserve, restore and present to advantage, and publicize treasures which they consider as being not merely of national value but also as belonging to humanity as a whole. One speaker stressed that greater common efforts in the protection and preservation of the cultural heritage would also promote peace, mutual understanding and peaceful coexistence.

Another delegate stressed that the international campaigns demonstrated the will of mankind to safeguard cultural property from destruction in the event of armed conflict.

(313) Certain delegates, while approving the draft programme and budget, nevertheless regretted the inadequacy of the budget allocated for the preservation of the world heritage and hoped that the staff responsible for carrying out that programme would be strengthened. In view of the urgency of the problem, one delegate wanted an evaluation of the situation to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 124th session.

Subprogramme XI.1.1: Inventories, collection and studies of the non-physical heritage

(314) The Commission was virtually unanimous in taking a very favourable view of Subprogramme XI.1.1 and giving it cordial support. Most delegates emphasized the importance of the programme, which they considered to be well devised both from the point of view of its conception of the non-physical heritage as taking in oral traditions, non-verbal traditions (dance, music, ritual, folklore, etc.) and language studies and research, and from the point of view of its methodological approach. In addition, the new subprogramme established a harmonious balance between the physical and non-physical heritage, and a good distribution of budgetary resources among the various activities. Several speakers stressed that folklore and oral traditions constituted an essential ingredient of cultural identity but those forms of cultural tradition were tending to be lost in the contemporary world. Oral and non-verbal traditions were clearly an irreplaceable link between the past and the present; they needed to be safeguarded in order to inform and enrich the present and inspire the future. In doing that, Unesco would be making a significant contribution to the preservation of human thought through the ages. Its assistance should therefore be directed to ensuring that those traditions were integrated into the present and future of mankind, by including them in the modern educational system by means of school textbooks and documentary films. Most of the speakers stressed the need not only to make the necessary recordings, using the most up-to-date methods offered by science and technology, but also to provide for the training of musicians the dancers. With that in mind, one delegate said that the various forms of dance, such as Bharat Natyam, Kathakali, Manipuri and Kathak, offered great opportunities of training for his own people and for the populations of neighbouring countries sharing the same cultures.

(315) Many speakers, while commending the methodological approach suggested for the inventorying, collection, preservation and dissemination of the non-physical heritage, raised the question of how Unesco was going to carry out the

activities connected with the identification of the non-physical heritage that was dying out, the pilot project, and the international regulations for the preservation of folklore. With their countries' experience in those matters behind them, those same delegates offered to share that experience with other States and asked to be associated with the execution of the subprogramme. One speaker emphasized that it was not for Unesco to define a methodology, taking the view that such action fell within the field of competence of universities and specialized institutions and that, in any event, extremely important scientific work had already been done. The activities in question under Subprogramme XI.1.1 should be carried out in close co-operation with National Commissions, universities and specialized regional institutions. Several speakers pointed out that Unesco should give priority to identifying situations where the collection and study of the non-physical heritage were urgently needed to save those components of the heritage that seemed most threatened. One speaker announced that his country had passed a single law to provide for the protection of the entire cultural heritage. A few delegates spoke in support of the international regulations for the preservation of folklore, including the artistic and cultural heritage.

(316) So far as non verbal traditions, and in particular dance and music, were concerned, a large number of delegates spoke in favour of the activities relating to the production of films on dance in its various forms and of video cassettes on traditional dances that were dying out. One speaker, however, considered that it was not only necessary to record dances, so that they would survive in a fixed and immutable form, but also to teach them, so that they might keep all their vitality and dynamism. Speakers stressed the urgent need to embark on research on musical traditions and the recording and production of discs and cassettes of traditional music, and, as a matter of priority, of the music of minority ethnic groups. Several speakers referred to the desire of the countries of the Pacific to co-ordinate their efforts with a view to developing research on musical traditions and, more generally, non-verbal traditions in the Asia and the Pacific region. The delegate of India likewise recommended the collection and dissemination of great epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata, and asked for the Ramayana festival to be organized regionally, with co-operation between India, Indonesia, Thailand and Kampuchea. One speaker asked whether it would be possible for the pilot project mentioned in paragraph 11105 (c) to concentrate more specifically on minority cultures.

(317) Most speakers, in expressing their continuing support for the section concerned with oral traditions, emphasized the validity of the proposed activities in that field; several speakers

took the opportunity to tell of their own national experience in the collection and study of oral traditions, and offered to share that experience with other countries. One delegate offered the assistance of Portuguese-speaking specialists for work with other States, including the Portuguese-speaking African countries. Some delegates expressed the specific needs of their countries and their desire to receive the technical, scientific and financial support of Unesco, either in order to develop their research or to publish recordings that have been made and that are deteriorating, like those on the 'Mvet', for lack of proper equipment. The delegate of Senegal, while emphasizing the importance and value of the collection and study of oral traditions conducted by the Regional Centre of the Organization of African Unity in Niamey, asked that a centre for the utilization, collection and conservation of the non-physical heritage be set up, to be based in Dakar. Some speakers considered that priority should be given to publication of texts that had already been collected and studied rather than to new recordings. Most speakers, however, said it was necessary to encourage both the publication and the collection, depending on the individual case, of items of the non-physical heritage. In that context several speakers, while pleased with the increase in budget provisions for culture in general and for Subprogramme XI.1.1 in particular, found the appropriations quite insufficient, especially as regards financial aid to regional and national centres for the collection and study of oral traditions. One speaker deplored the imbalance between funds allocated to the various regions for the study of the non-physical heritage and those allocated to Latin America. Another delegate suggested drawing upon the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture for a contribution to the financing of Subprogramme XI.1.1. The delegate of Gabon thanked the Director-General for the help the Organization was giving to the International Centre for Bantu Civilizations, and gave an outline of the activities of the Centre in the listing, collection and study of the non-physical Bantu heritage. Several delegates asked the Organization to contribute to the safeguarding and study of the Palestinian heritage.

(318) Activities relating to the protection of languages were also strongly supported by the Commission. Several speakers considered that priority should be given to the recording and study of minority languages and the languages of migrant workers, as well as to languages that are dying out. Some speakers told of experience in their countries, both in the recording and transcription of languages and in the development of grammars, lexicons and bilingual and monolingual dictionaries, one instance being the preparation of the thesaurus of Celtic languages, and they showed themselves willing to share that experience with other countries. One speaker wanted States to adopt in this

respect an open-door policy towards researchers working on languages common to several countries. One speaker regretted that Unesco's work on the preparation of linguistic atlases and terminological research in African languages was more low-profile than that of other intergovernmental organizations, and he hoped that comparative research on African linguistics, historical linguistics in particular, would be taken into consideration. Another speaker, however, praised Unesco's work on behalf of African languages, especially as regards the preparation of linguistic atlases, and he asked for Unesco's financial assistance for studies of the structure of those languages and for full descriptions of them. One delegate proposed that the development of ancient languages be studied or that assistance be provided for transcribing languages such as Kush, and that dictionaries of those classical languages, especially the medieval languages, be prepared. Another delegate stressed the need to develop the Malay language.

(319) Lastly, several delegates held that, both in the field of linguistics and in the activities related to the non-physical heritage as a whole, attempts should be made to develop exchanges of information and experience within and among the various regions, as well as international co-operation among specialists.

Subprogramme XI.1.2: Standard-setting action for the preservation and enhancement of the heritage and aid for the planning of safeguarding policies

(320) Twenty-five delegates spoke in support of activities proposed under Subprogramme XI.1.2 on Standard-setting action for the preservation and enhancement of the heritage and aid for the planning of safeguarding policies. The standard-setting instruments already adopted were considered worthy of special attention in that they constituted an important basis for the whole programme for the protection of the cultural heritage. In the opinion of one delegate, however, too many instruments had been adopted which jeopardized their very objectives and it was essential that Unesco assist in bringing about their concrete application in national legislation. Another delegate expressed satisfaction that the activities foreseen focused on the implementation and consolidation of existing instruments rather than on the elaboration of new texts.

(321) The vast majority of speakers who referred to the standard-setting programme expressed special interest in the World Heritage Convention which, in the words of one delegate, had more than proved its value. Several delegates drew attention to their participation in the Convention and in particular, to the inclusion on the World Heritage List of sites situated in their countries; some of these delegates sought to make a more effective contribution to the implemen-

tation of the Convention and had consequently presented their candidature for election to the World Heritage Committee. Four delegates indicated that ratification of the Convention was under study in their countries.

(322) One delegate drew attention to the problem posed, particularly for the developing countries, with respect to the implementation of the Convention, in view of the lack of expertise prevailing in those countries. He went on to express the hope that the regional workshop foreseen under the subprogramme would be organized primarily for directors of conservation services from developing countries. The sharp fall in resources in the World Heritage Fund compared to previous years was of concern to another delegate who indicated that the funds available were clearly insufficient to meet preservation needs under the Convention. A third delegate stated that the rejection of proposals made by States for the inclusion of properties in the World Heritage List gave rise to a high degree of local discontent.

(323) A number of delegates described the dangers to their cultural heritage resulting from illicit traffic and clandestine excavations. Several of them referred to their participation in the Unesco Convention of 1970 on the means of prohibiting and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of ownership of cultural property, and some described the legislation in force in their countries to protect their cultural heritage against these dangers. Two delegates referred specifically to the removal of objects by foreign archaeologists and one of them added that excavations carried out by foreign teams should be closely controlled. In the opinion of another delegate, the illicit international movement of objects was encouraged by the high prices obtained on the international art market by cultural objects. This same delegate drew attention to the difference between illicit traffic and the removal of objects during the colonial period and to the different measures to be taken; he recalled the proposals made by his delegation at the 1983 meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee as to measures which could be taken to curb illicit traffic. For one delegate, one of the problems which left his country particularly vulnerable to illicit traffic was the lack of trained archaeologists.

(324) The other international Conventions and the Recommendations gave rise to few comments. Five delegates referred to the Convention for the protection of cultural property in the event of armed conflict. One of them indicated that ratification was under study in his country. Another referred to the cost and difficulty of implementing the preventive measures and to the fears as to the political consequences of its effective implementation. A third delegate drew attention to the fact that, although rules of war were embodied in the Convention, these rules were

contravened when war actually broke out and he emphasized the need to intensify protection in the event of armed conflict. As to the recommendations, one delegate supported the proposal to revise an existing recommendation to cover protection of the underwater cultural heritage, the importance of which he stressed. Referring to the proposed workshop to study measures required for the application of the recommendations concerning the protection of the immovable cultural heritage, another delegate expressed the hope that directors of conservation services from the developing countries would be invited on a priority basis.

Subprogramme XI.1.3: Operational action for the safeguarding of the immovable cultural heritage and its reintegration into modern life.

(325) Thirty-seven delegates expressed their support for Unesco's action under this subprogramme, which was an example of the most outstanding, if not the most spectacular activities that had contributed to the prestige of the Organization and won the approbation of the whole world. Several delegates commended the efforts made by the Secretariat to implement this subprogramme. Delegates of Member States in which a campaign was in progress or had been completed, as was the case in Egypt, expressed their satisfaction with the steadfast efforts of the Organization.

(326) One delegate thanked the Member States which had contributed to the execution of the international campaign for the safeguarding of the ancient towns of Mauritania, and thanked France for having established a French National Committee to support this campaign. Another delegate expressed his thanks to the Member States that had helped in the preservation of the cultural heritage of Montenegro, ravaged by an earthquake in 1979. The international assistance and the bilateral co-operation provided for the safeguarding of Sukkothai, in Thailand, were also mentioned. Likewise, gratitude was expressed to Member States and the media which had helped in the execution of the international campaign to safeguard the Kathmandu Valley in Nepal. One delegate also thanked the Syrian Arab Republic for the interest it had expressed in the campaign for the safeguarding of Shibam and Wadi Hadramaut. One delegate said that his country was interested in the possibility of organizing an international campaign to safeguard the ancient city of Damascus. The Delegate of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expressed the wish that Unesco should study the possibility of including in the cultural heritage of mankind the tombs containing wall paintings in Kangseu in the Kingdom of Kogouryo, and of co-operating in their preservation.

(327) Several delegates, on the other hand, expressed acute concern over the proliferation of international safeguarding campaigns, because in such

circumstances it was difficult to galvanize the efforts of the international community. They endorsed the conclusions of the in-depth study and expressed the hope that these would be implemented as soon as possible. It was suggested by two delegates that the study should be widely disseminated. Also endorsing the conclusions of the in-depth study, one delegate expressed the hope that the very concept of an international campaign might be subjected to serious scrutiny. Another delegate, who shared the point of view expressed on the proliferation of international campaigns, requested support for the draft resolution (DR.283) proposing an amendment to the resolution on Major Programme XI.

(328) While commending the efforts that had been made, particularly in the international campaigns to safeguard historical urban sites, one delegate expressed concern about the deterioration of those sites and suggested that a meeting of experts might study this problem during the 1986-1987 biennium and establish the basic rules of a methodology for their preservation.

(329) Referring to the situation of the Palestinian cultural heritage and that of the old city of Jerusalem, many delegates urged Unesco to continue its efforts to safeguard them. The delegate of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, stressing the alarming state of his country's cultural heritage requested Unesco to accord particular attention to the safeguarding of the temple of Vat Phu. The delegate of Cyprus referred to the dangers overshadowing the cultural heritage of his country as a result of the foreign occupation of a part of its territory. He emphasized the responsibility incumbent on Unesco to send an on-site advisory mission to assess the situation of the cultural property that was located in the zone occupied by another State. The delegate of Turkey said that cultural property in question had been placed in safe-keeping and that the Turkish authorities in the North of Cyprus did not obstruct the mission; they maintained that it would be necessary to apply to the authorities in the North if the protection of the cultural heritage were deemed to be an overriding consideration. In his reply, the delegate of Cyprus declared that he had documents in his possession which proved the truth of the allegations in his statement, and that he would place these at the disposal of the other delegates. He added that his government, which was the only government in Cyprus recognized by the United Nations, continued to offer its full co-operation to Unesco for that mission.

Subprogramme XI.1.4 - Preservation and presentation of the movable cultural heritage

(330) Thirty-eight delegates expressed interest in this subprogramme. Many delegates emphasized the capital importance of strengthening and improving the institutions, and infrastructural facilities responsible for the protection

of movable cultural property. Several speakers stressed the need to develop museum facilities, particularly in the developing countries. One delegate drew attention to the dangers threatening cultural property which was not located in museums, such as objects in churches and monuments. Suitable methods of preserving them should be sought.

(331) Most speakers considered that advisory services for the improvement of management, and the establishment of laboratories, were particularly useful. Unesco's action in this field, in conjunction with the action of ICOM, which was regarded as very important, won the approval of many delegates, who also pointed to the need to encourage the establishment of specialized museums, particularly in Africa, and also the extension of museum services to rural areas. One delegate said that, as part of the activities under Subprogramme XI.1.4, his country's national museum intended to organize a symposium on the improvement of museum management and the techniques for inventorying movable property.

(332) Another speaker invited support for the development of a conservation laboratory for the Ghana Museum. One speaker hoped that museum catalogues would be made available in Arabic. One delegate proposed that priority be given to paragraph 11128 (e) on the provision of equipment and supplies for museums and conservation laboratories.

(333) Two delegates from the Caribbean region said that Subprogramme XI.1.4 provided a suitable framework for helping to establish a mobile museum on the Amerindian heritage, and one of them especially noted that the countries of her region wished to participate more fully in Unesco's activities for the preservation of the heritage.

(334) One delegate then recounted a unique experiment conducted in his country since 1982 on the use of X-rays for the in-depth conservation of objects made of wood, leather and other materials, entailing considerable savings in financial outlay and staff. In that connection, he announced that his government intended, in co-operation with Unesco, to organize a seminar in 1986 in Prague on the restoration of textiles. Two delegates drew attention to the problem of the conservation of manuscripts, for which they hoped Unesco would provide assistance.

(335) The activities foreseen for the return or restitution of cultural property to their countries of origin were considered of special importance by 24 speakers, many of whom expressed their support for the work of the Intergovernmental Committee. Several delegates drew attention to important losses to the heritage of their countries as a result of the removal of cultural objects during the colonial period. The hope was expressed by a number of delegates that there would now be more numerous positive responses to the many requests for the return of important objects. The delegate of Greece expressed the hope that the Government of the United Kingdom would

respond positively to its request for the return of the marbles belonging to the Parthenon. In this connection, the delegate of the United Kingdom explained that the question was being carefully studied and that his government would shortly reply on this matter. Inventories of dispersed heritages were seen to be an essential tool for this purpose and Unesco was encouraged to continue providing assistance in this field. One delegate expressed interest in receiving advisory services for the conduct of bilateral negotiations for the return of objects. Another speaker drew attention to the dispersal of the cultural heritage of Namibia and expressed the hope that the Intergovernmental Committee could assist in finding a solution to this question. For another delegate the co-operation between Unesco and ICOM in promoting international co-operation on this question was a successful example of the complementarity and force of joint inter-governmental and non-governmental action.

Subprogramme XI.1.5: Training of specialized personnel

(336) The shortage of personnel specializing in the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage, especially in developing countries, was stressed by most delegates, who welcomed the activities provided for under this subprogramme.

(337) Many delegates drew attention to the particular importance of training activities which, as one of them said, constituted the primary objective, providing a basis for all of the other activities included in Programme XI.1. However, some delegates felt that, despite the increase in the budget allocated to this activity for the 1986-1987 biennium, the budgetary provision for training was still very much less than what was needed. Several delegates accordingly took the view that the number of fellowships should be substantially increased and that further training courses for museum technicians should be organized. In this connection, the delegate of Czechoslovakia drew attention to his country's proposal to set up an international summer school in museum science in Brno in 1986-1987. The training of African archaeologists was also considered important. Several delegates wished that candidates from their countries might be able to attend courses on wood and stone conservation. One, the delegate of China, also wished that China could send participants to attend courses on wood and stone conservation, and said that his country was willing to co-operate with Unesco in organizing a course in Beijing on the conservation and restoration of stone monuments.

(338) Several delegates, while welcoming the existence of training centres supported by Unesco, like the Niamey centre, wished a similar institute to be set up in one of the English-speaking African countries. One delegate also pointed out that there was no institution of this kind for the

Portuguese-speaking African countries. One delegate suggested that first priority should be given to the support provided for in paragraph 11135 (i) for the establishment of a subregional centre for the preservation and presentation of the cultural heritage of Eastern European countries. Several delegates drew attention to the need to increase training activities in the Pacific region. One delegate considered that the benefit of co-operation and assistance granted to the countries of Latin America was on a smaller scale than that received by the other developing countries.

(339) Finally, one delegate observed that craft workers played an important part in conservation activities and that this category of occupation should be included in programmes for the training of specialized personnel to restore historic buildings.

Subprogramme XI.1.6: Exchange of information and promotion of public awareness

(340) The objectives of Subprogramme XI.1.6 and the activities that it proposed were favourably received, and drew specific comments from twenty-two delegates. The importance of public participation, and especially the participation of young people, in the preservation of the heritage was universally acknowledged. The young, it was observed, were responsible for the future of their heritage, and consequently must be made aware and educated so that they could be actively involved in its preservation. To that end, initiatives should be launched that used new methods of communication aimed at young people. The participation of young people in safeguard projects, particularly at restoration sites, should be further encouraged along with, for example, the organization of 'open days' by institutions responsible for the heritage.

(341) In connection with the in-depth study on international campaigns, it was recalled that the promotion of operations to safeguard the cultural heritage should not merely involve efforts on the part of Unesco at international level, but should primarily be the work of national authorities. Various examples were given of private or national initiatives, such as patronage by banks, inclusion of courses on conservation of the heritage in school syllabuses, organization of tourist itineraries and dissemination of information by the national press or broadcasting media.

(342) Many delegates renewed their support for the international documentation programme entrusted to the Unesco-ICOM (International Council of Museums) and Unesco-ICOMOS (International Council of Monuments and Sites) documentation centres, which was judged to be particularly useful for research on the preservation and conservation of the heritage. The desire was frequently expressed that the fruitful co-operation between Unesco, ICOM and ICOMOS might develop further in order to permit

broader dissemination of specialist information on museums and conservation of the heritage.

(343) Several speakers made very favourable comments on the journal Museum, which was recognized as a useful forum for exchanges of information among specialists and for promoting awareness in a readership that was alert to the various aspects of museum science. One delegate praised the universal scope of the journal, which was certainly unique of its kind in the heritage field in that it purveyed practical knowledge and at the same time disseminated new ideas. One delegate requested that Museum should be translated into Portuguese. It was also suggested that Unesco should consider as one of its future activities a study of conservation methods adapted to different building materials and also a study of archive methods for documentation relating to historical monuments, so as to contribute to the preparation of a set of guiding principles for architectural conservation.

(344) In his reply to the debate, the Assistant Director-General for Culture stated his gratitude for the strong support expressed for Programme XI.1 and expressed appreciation to Ambassador Villoro Toranzo for his presentation of the report of the Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation. He welcomed the many offers of collaboration in carrying out the programme and stated that every endeavour would be made to make the best possible use of experience already acquired in Member States. He indicated that the favourable remarks concerning the improvement in presentation, the balance achieved between long-term objectives and more immediate needs and the emphasis placed on operational activities and training had been carefully noted and would be kept in mind when future programmes were prepared. Noting that so many delegates had endorsed the findings of the in-depth study on international campaigns, he assured the Commission that the Secretariat would carefully follow-up the relevant decision taken by the Executive Board and report to the Board on the progress made in this respect. In reply to a question concerning the Cultural Triangle project, he confirmed the information provided by the delegate of Sri Lanka that the overall assessment of two international experts from Japan and India was that the project was technically very satisfactory but that additional funds were urgently required. With respect to the unfortunate bomb attack on Borobudur, the Assistant Director-General for Culture informed the Commission that the Director-General of Unesco had offered scientific and technical assistance to repair the damage but that the Indonesian Government had been able to undertake the necessary restoration work, already completed, with its own means. In concluding, the Assistant Director-General for Culture assured the Commission that all the suggestions made for future activity

would be carefully considered.

Decisions concerning discussion unit 16

A. Draft resolutions withdrawn

(345) The following draft resolutions were withdrawn by their authors in the light of the explanations provided by the Director-General:

- 23 C/DR.153 concerning the survey and inventory of cultural materials in Australian and Pacific collections;
- 23 C/DR.253 concerning cultural activities in the Pacific, in so far as it relates to unit 16.

B. Draft resolutions which it was recommended should be noted

(a) Draft resolutions without budgetary implications

(346) The Commission unanimously recommended to the General Conference that it take note of the following draft resolutions and invite the Director-General to take them into account as far as possible in carrying out the approved programme:

- (347) 23 C/DR.48 concerning the creation of a post of Subregional Adviser for Culture in the Caribbean.
- (348) 23 C/DR.83 Rev. concerning the protection and safeguarding of the monuments of Vat Phu.
- (349) 23 C/DR.84 concerning assistance for the cultural development of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.
- (350) 23 C/DR.168 concerning the training of personnel specializing in the restoration and conservation of the cultural heritage.
- (351) 23 C/DR.209 concerning the organization of an international symposium on the occasion of the 28th centenary of the founding of Carthage.
- (352) 23 C/DR.254 concerning a territorial survey of Oceanic music.

(b) Draft resolutions with budgetary implications

(353) The following draft resolutions which have budgetary implications were approved by the Commission.

(354) 23 C/DR.20 concerning the creation of a mobile museum of the Caribbean heritage: in the light of the Director-General's comments, the Commission recommended that this draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,900 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(355) 23 C/DR.65 the delegate of the Syrian Arab Republic amended orally this draft resolution, limiting the request to an exhaustive technical study on the preservation and enhancement of the old town of Damascus; taking account of the comments of the Director-General and of the oral amendment mentioned above, the Commission recommended that the draft resolution should be noted by the General

Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,900 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(356) 23 C/DR.82 concerning the establishment of an international summer school: in the light of the Director-General's comments, recommended that this draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,600 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(357) 23 C/DR.208 concerning the establishment of an international group of experts to consider problems connected with the cultural and historical heritage of major urban centres: the delegate of Bulgaria made an oral amendment to the draft resolution to the effect that one and not two meetings of the international group should be held; in the light of the Director-General's comments and the oral amendment mentioned above, the Commission recommended that the draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,000 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(358) 23 C/DR.224 concerning the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the death of Master Architect Sinan: in the light of the Director-General's comments, the Commission recommended that this draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,000 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(359) 23 C/DR.274 concerning the subvention to the International Council of Museums (ICOM): in the light of the Director-General's comments, the Commission recommended that this draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$9,900 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(360) 23 C/DR.285 concerning the subvention to the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS): in the light of the Director-General's comments, the Commission recommended that this draft resolution should be noted by the General Conference with a budgetary allocation of \$7,700 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

C. Draft resolution which it was recommended should be adopted by the General Conference

(361) 23 C/DR.239 one of the co-authors of the draft resolution proposed orally that the fourth operative paragraph of this draft resolution should read as follows:

'undertakes a study on the identity of the Palestinian people in its various aspects (origins, historical development, present state), it being understood that this study will be financed by means of extra-budgetary funds.'

The delegate drew attention in particular to resolution 3 of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies held in 1970, mentioned in the third paragraph of the Preamble of the draft resolution, which was applicable to any State occupying the territory of another people,

whether in Palestine or elsewhere. The delegate of Italy expressed his readiness to co-sponsor the draft resolution if amended as above. The Commission accepted the suggestions made by the Director-General that the first three subparagraphs should read as follows:

1. Continues its action...;
2. Continues its action...;
3. Ensures the protection...;

The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt 23 C/DR.239 with the oral amendment referred to above and the suggested amendments of the Director-General (see 23 C/Resolution 11.6).

D. Draft resolutions amending the proposed resolution in document 23 C/5

(362) 23 C/DR.136 the Commission recommended that the General Conference should adopt this draft resolution which amends resolution 11.1 proposed by the Director-General by the addition after paragraph 4 of a new paragraph 5 and, by the addition of a phrase to the following paragraph (new paragraph 6); the following paragraphs to be renumbered in consequence (see 23 C/Resolution 11.1).

(363) 23 C/DR.283 the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt this draft resolution which amends

resolution 11.1 proposed by the Director-General by the addition of a phrase to (new) paragraph 7 (a) (iii) (see 23 C/Resolution 11.1).

E. Work plan

(364) The Commission further decided to recommend that the General Conference take note of the work plan corresponding to Programme XI.1 with the accepted modifications, as mentioned above.

F. Budget appropriation

(365) The Commission also took note of the budget provision without the participation programme, of US \$6,240,700 for Programme XI.1 (paragraph 11101 of draft 23 C/5 after an amount of \$1,427,000 had been placed in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) for second-priority activities and corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to Programme XI.1 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 17 -
MAJOR PROGRAMME XI: CULTURE AND THE FUTURE
(PROGRAMMES XI.2, XI.3 AND XI.4)

Programme XI.2: Cultural identity and intercultural relations

Programme XI.3: Creation and creativity

Programme XI.4: Cultural development and cultural policies

(366) The Commission devoted four meetings to an examination of this unit on 31 October and 1 November 1985.

(367) Mr Bashir El Bakri, Chairman of the Administrative Council of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture, gave an account of the Fund's activities. So far it had been possible to support some 200 projects, mainly of an innovative and experimental nature, in 74 countries, through financial assistance amounting to a total of \$2,764,800. Twenty-eight governments had so far contributed to the Fund's resources. The Chairman of the Fund drew attention to the brochure describing its origins and characteristics. Finally, referring to draft resolution No. 280, submitted by Sudan, Kuwait and Greece, the Chairman appealed to Member States and to public and private institutions and organizations to give financial support to the Fund.

(368) The Assistant Director-General for Culture then presented the three programmes, Programmes XI.2, XI.3

and XI.4, covered by Discussion Unit 17. Describing Programme XI.2 relating to cultural identity and intercultural relations, he recalled that the purpose of the programme was to encourage awareness and expression of cultural identity - particularly by broadening knowledge of the different components of regional cultures - and to stimulate an interaction of cultures and facilitate cultural exchanges and international cultural co-operation; to that end, Unesco would continue to ensure the development and wide dissemination of works representative of all geocultural areas.

(369) The Assistant Director-General for Culture reminded the Commission that as a result of Executive Board decision 121 EX/Decision 4.1, Subprogrammes XI.2.3 (Analysis and stimulation of intercultural communication) and XI.2.5 (Studies of the specificity and universality of cultural values), approved in document 22 C/5, had been merged in a new Subprogramme XI.2.2: Intercultural communication and cultural values. He also pointed out that, in order to avoid overlapping and duplication and to achieve greater programme concentration, the components of former Subprogramme XI.2.2 (Study of the relationship between culture and techno-industrial development) had been incorporated into other subprogrammes, particularly Subprogramme XI.4.1: The cultural dimension

of development.

(370) Turning to Subprogramme XI.2.1: Knowledge of cultures and promotion of cultural identities - the Assistant Director-General for Culture reviewed the progress of work in carrying out the programmes relating to the revision of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind, and to the regional histories (General History of Africa, General History of Latin America, General History of the Caribbean, History of the Civilizations of Central Asia, and the work on the various aspects of Islamic culture). All those projects were progressing satisfactorily. Referring specifically to the General History of Africa, he said how pleased he was to be able to inform the Commission that some volumes of that work were on display outside Room 3 in English, French, Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Portuguese, and that the last volume (Africa since 1935) would be published during the 1988-1989 biennium. The preparation of the abridged versions and the translation into African languages, particularly Swahili and Hausa, he added, were proceeding satisfactorily, and Volume II was to be published in Swahili in 1986.

(371) The Assistant Director-General for Culture assured the Commission that the other regional history projects would be conducted in a similar manner and he expressed his hope that those histories would meet with the same response and enjoy the same popularity as the General History of Africa.

(372) On the subject of intercultural communication and cultural values, the Assistant Director-General remarked that this subprogramme comprised new activities designed to shed light on the processes of interaction between cultures and the conditions conducive to their mutual enrichment.

(373) The Assistant Director-General for Culture concluded his presentation of Programme XI.2 by stating that under Subprogramme XI.2.3 - Action to promote the mutual appreciation of cultures - Unesco would continue to disseminate literary and artistic works from different geocultural areas and, in particular, would intensify its programme of translation of representative works by including in it more of the key works based on oral tradition and by co-operating with universities and the competent non-governmental organizations in training young translators.

(374) Introducing Programme XI.3, Creation and creativity, the Assistant Director-General for Culture reminded the Commission that, in an effort at concentration and to take account of the recommendation of the Executive Board (120 EX/Decision 4.1), that programme was to comprise three subprogrammes instead of five. The new subdivision would probably give the programme a greater impact in Member States. In the first biennium, it had been found that the funds allocated to certain activities were too small for those activities to produce the desired effect.

(375) Stressing the role of

non-governmental organizations in the field of artistic creation, the Assistant Director-General mentioned that co-operation with such organizations would be strengthened, so as to enable creative artists and the organizations representing them to participate in Unesco's objectives and programmes and thus to encourage artistic exchanges. For that purpose, seven non-governmental organizations would continue to receive subventions and, for the first time, a subvention would be granted to the International Dance Council (IDC).

(376) The Assistant Director-General was aware that the resources allocated to such a highly ambitious programme were meagre. Several activities would be carried out in conjunction with Member States, which would share the costs as far as they could. Member States attached great importance to that programme, as was shown by the number of requests addressed to Unesco through the participation programme. In 1984-1985, 280 requests had related to that programme alone. He pointed out that, in the Plan of Action for the Decade for Cultural Development, the theme of creation and creativity would have an important part to play in regard both to individual fulfilment and to international cultural co-operation.

(377) The Assistant Director-General for Culture then stressed the importance of Programme XI.4 - Cultural development and cultural policies - in the work of Unesco since the major regional and international conferences on cultural policies, which had culminated in the Mondiacult Conference (Mexico City (1982)). Cultural development had become an essential dimension and a fundamental objective in the development of both individuals and societies. The structure of the programme and the activities proposed under it reflected the indications and priorities set by the Executive Board at its 120th session. In the effort to achieve greater concentration, the number of subprogrammes had been reduced from five to four and the number of programme actions from 14 to 11.

(378) The activities proposed in connection with the cultural dimension of development were intended to make it easier to take account of cultural factors in the strategies for economic, social, scientific and technological development, to encourage the study of interactions between culture and other key fields of development, and to support development pilot projects. The main purpose of the subprogramme 'Cultural development policies and participation in cultural life' was to encourage broader participation in cultural life, especially by women, young people, the elderly and certain disadvantaged groups. Great attention would also be paid to the strengthening of national and regional training facilities for cultural development personnel and to making those responsible for economic and social development aware of the cultural aspect of their duties. Lastly, the activities

Programme Commissions

proposed under the head of international cultural co-operation were aimed in particular at stimulating cultural co-operation among developing countries, encouraging the undertaking of joint studies or projects, facilitating exchanges of information and experience in the cultural field, and strengthening international endeavours for the implementation of cultural co-operation projects.

(379) The Assistant Director-General for Culture also emphasized the close relationship between that programme and activities connected with the World Decade for Cultural Development.

General debate

(380) The 84 speakers in the debate in Commission IV on Unit 17, covering Programmes XI.2, 3 and 4, engaged in a continually constructive exchange of views, a desire for mutual understanding being displayed on all sides. The delegates were unanimous in congratulating the Organization on the clarity, concentration and sense of structure it had brought to its projects, and emphasized their extremely broad coverage.

(381) They insisted that culture should occupy a primordial position among Unesco's programmes and activities. While acknowledging the relative increase in fundings allocated to it, they none the less deplored its inadequacy and expressed the fervent hope that the utmost importance would be attached to it in the preparation of document 24 C/5.

(382) Several speakers expressed their concern regarding the imbalance in the distribution of the Culture budget between the programmes 'Cultural heritage' and 'Creation and creativity'.

(383) Many delegates spoke of the importance of the non-governmental organizations, which were the Organization's partners, and regretted the reduction in subventions to them; there was no attempt, however, to deny the Organization's financial difficulties, which had been reflected in the decisions of the Executive Board at its 122nd session. Some delegates hoped that the Secretariat would take the initiative of carrying out an in-depth study with a view to evaluating the work done by the non-governmental organizations.

Programme XI.2: Cultural identity and intercultural relations

Subprogramme XI.2.1: Knowledge of cultures and promotion of cultural identities

(384) The Commission strongly supported Unesco's action to encourage awareness and the affirmation of cultural identity. All the delegates who spoke considered cultural identity to be the bedrock of the individual personality and of society, and consequently the best means of enabling peoples to find a confidence in themselves based upon their own ancestral traditions, to cope with situations in which cultural identity was

sometimes undermined by the development of modern technology and foreign cultural models, and to express their own essential identity at a time when the trend towards uniformity was threatening to stifle cultural individuality.

(385) One delegate spoke of the situation in Namibia, strongly criticizing the policy of the racist South African regime, which represented a threat to the African cultural identity of the population of that country.

(386) Most delegates welcomed the implementation of projects relating to the revision of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind, and the preparation of regional histories (the General History of Africa, the General History of Latin America, the General History of the Caribbean, the History of the Civilizations of Central Asia, and the work on various aspects of Islamic Culture), which would increase peoples' awareness of their past and help them to identify with and derive inspiration from it in order to give them a deeper understanding of the present and prepare themselves for the future. Two delegates said that Unesco seemed to be the most appropriate organizational framework for the preparation and production of historical studies of an interdisciplinary nature undertaken within a global context, and that in so doing it was performing one of its essential tasks.

(387) Many delegates expressed support for the programme for the revision of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind. Some speakers pointed out that Islamic culture and the culture of the countries of the Third World had been badly served or ignored in the first edition of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind. The same speakers welcomed the methods that had been adopted for the revision of that History. Those methods, they stressed, were innovatory, setting an example in that in revising and supplementing the work an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach had been adopted which called on specialists from various cultural regions. They urged that the project be pursued and brought to a successful conclusion since it would set the historical record straight and demonstrate the contribution which the various peoples had made to the history of the world. However, the delegate of the United Kingdom requested that the project be slowed down and priority given to the regional histories, which seemed to him more important and more urgent. If a sum of about \$200,000 were set aside from that project the historical studies and research which were given second priority in 23 C/5 could be continued.

(388) Many delegates welcomed the progress made in editing and publishing the General History of Africa. The delegate of China expressed a desire for Chinese specialists to be associated with the General History of Africa project and for publication of the work in Chinese to be provided for in future in Unesco's

regular programme, the first volumes having already appeared in that language. Two delegates drew attention to the fact that the enterprise, which had seemed to many people to be an uncertain one, had proved successful, both in terms of its methodology, in that it had made possible co-operation on an international level between specialists from different backgrounds, and in terms of its substance; the same speakers added that the work would serve as an example and was already being used as a work of reference both in Africa and in other regions where it had been well received.

(389) The delegate of China said that the International Drafting Committee for the History of the Civilizations of Central Asia was not functioning satisfactorily. It lacked the democratic atmosphere needed for academic studies during discussion. It would be difficult to reflect fairly, objectively and completely the history of the countries of Central Asia. As far as the content of the book was concerned, the differences of opinion on the interpretation of history, already evident among the members of the countries concerned, would be even more considerable when the time came to draft contemporary history. In view of the need to make savings, the delegate of China requested that the History of the Civilizations of Central Asia project be deferred and transferred to second priority. The delegate of the Soviet Union was in favour of maintaining and pursuing the project.

(390) Most of the delegates expressed support for historical studies and research on cultures. A number of delegates deplored the fact that those activities had been placed in second priority and requested that they be transferred to first priority. Several delegates, regretting that a secondary place had been given to the European cultures, requested that the Organization give greater attention to European cultures as a whole, and that the programme on Slav cultures be continued with broader scope. Several delegates expressed the wish that the studies on the Slav, Celtic, Arctic, South-East European and other cultures mentioned in paragraph 11211 be placed in first priority in document 24 C/5. In the same spirit one delegate pointed out, and deplored, that the programme for the study of the cultures of Latin America did not receive as large a budgetary allocation as that earmarked for the other geocultural regions. Several delegates requested a better balance between the regions as far as the financing of cultural research and studies was concerned. The delegate of Papua New Guinea hoped that the Advisory Committee for the Study of Pacific Cultures would be able to continue its activities in 1986-1987; he also hoped that the Regional Adviser would hold regular consultations with the Member States of the region.

(391) As for the Celtic cultures, two speakers requested that even if the activity remained in second priority,

Unesco should provide assistance for the meeting of the working group on Celtic cultures.

(392) Several speakers requested that, as in the other geocultural regions, an Advisory Committee for the Study of African Cultures be set up in order to associate the African intellectual community with Unesco's work.

(393) One delegate suggested the preparation and publication of a General History of South-East Asia, to complement the work on Asia.

(394) Several speakers stressed the need to give priority in cultural studies and research to minority cultures and the most endangered cultural traditions. In this regard, the delegate of Turkey considered that the cultural rights of the Turkish minorities in Bulgaria were being violated. Exercising his right of reply, the delegate of Bulgaria asserted that his government recognized and protected cultural minorities and affirmed that his government recognized and protected the cultural rights of all the citizens of the country. He added, furthermore, that the Muslim minorities in Bulgaria were not Turkish. The representative of Turkey, exercising his right of reply, recalled the commitments made by Bulgaria with regard to the existence and protection of the national Turkish minority in Bulgaria.

(395) Expressing his approval for the programme of Asian historical studies and research, one speaker hoped for closer co-operation among South-East Asian specialists. He also requested that the History of the Civilizations of Central Asia be published in the languages used in the region. One delegate remarked that the regional studies should be organized in conformity with the interests of the region and in a place where everyone could attend.

(396) Many delegates took the floor to reiterate their support for the programme on cultural events and regional festivals. They stressed the great importance of these activities and their value for cultural exchange, as they offered people an exceptional opportunity to become acquainted with the various forms of cultural and artistic expression of their own countries and those of other regions. The Commission expressed regret that assistance to cultural events and regional festivals had been assigned second priority, and requested its upgrading to first priority; Unesco, it was emphasized, should in any event continue to assist the organization of festivals. However, one delegate stressed that the major responsibility for the financing of such festivals should be borne by the organizers and not by Unesco. Referring to the resolutions adopted by the first Conference of Education and Culture Ministers of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (24-28 September 1983, Pyongyang, Democratic People's Republic of Korea), the delegate of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea expressed the hope that Unesco would collaborate

closely with the Non-Aligned Movement in the field of culture, particularly as regards the organization of various festivals of Non-Aligned Countries.

Subprogramme XI.2.2: Intercultural communication and cultural values

(397) Acknowledging the need for, and the importance of, the affirmation of cultural identities, the Commission was unanimous in pointing out that it was such a rich source of dialogue between cultures and that it had an irreplaceable role to play in the search for world solidarity in support of peace and respect for human dignity. It was with this in mind that most delegates expressed their support for the programme on intercultural relations and stressed the role of Unesco in strengthening exchanges between cultures, which were an invaluable source of enrichment for all nations. Unesco, one speaker said, was itself 'a vector of intercultural communication'. One speaker stressed that the great need for intercultural communication felt by the contemporary world made the role of Unesco indispensable.

(398) Several delegates stressed the need to encourage and strengthen cultural co-operation at regional and even subregional level, between North and South and among the countries of the South.

(399) Stressing the need for cultural exchanges and international intercultural communication, the delegate of Guinea proposed the establishment of an intercultural communication centre, which his country was ready to host.

(400) Referring to the regional projects, one delegate said that projects for the Europe region should not be limited to Mediterranean cultures but that more attention should be given to South-East Europe. The delegate of Mauritania expressed his support for the study programmes on intercultural relations in the Mediterranean, while the delegate of Brazil said that his government was ready to host, in Sao Paulo, the seminar on the literature and art produced by emigrants of Arab origin in Latin America.

(401) The delegate of Turkey informed the Commission of the establishment of his government of a centre for the study of the architectural heritage of the Mediterranean region at Sinan University.

(402) The delegate of Gabon spoke about the International Centre for Bantu Civilization (CICIBA) at Libreville and thanked Unesco for all the assistance it had given to that Centre. Regretting that Unesco's financial assistance to CICIBA had been given second priority, he hoped that Unesco would continue to support the Centre, whose programmes paralleled and were an extension of those of Unesco.

(403) The delegate of Benin regretted that administrative constraints had prevented him from submitting a draft resolution supported by several countries on the project for the establishment of an institute for research and study of

the cultural relations between Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. He then described the principal goals and programmes of that institute and requested financial, technical and scientific assistance from Unesco.

(404) Several delegates expressed their support for the International Congress of African Studies (CIAF) and regretted that the assistance earmarked for that association for the coming biennium had been assigned second priority. One delegate wondered why no assistance had been given to the International African Institute.

(405) One delegate expressed satisfaction with the discontinuation of the journal Cultures. The delegate of Cuba asked for the technical and operational strengthening of the Regional Office for Culture for Latin America and the Caribbean, Havana. Several delegates requested the establishment of a post of Regional Adviser for Culture for the English-speaking and Dutch-speaking Caribbean.

Subprogramme XI.2.3: Action to promote the mutual appreciation of cultures

(406) Several delegates spoke in favour of the dissemination of world literature through collection, translation and publication and via the media, and expressed their appreciation of the Unesco Collection of Representative Works. One delegate asked that that activity, which had rightly been given first priority, should also include children's literature, while another urged caution in the choice of publishers and editors. One speaker deplored the fact that the Collection was not sufficiently well known in certain Member States, and another emphasized the importance of sustained publicity and promotion for the series. One non-governmental organization expressed its gratitude for the valuable assistance Unesco provided for its work of translation and training of young translators, especially in developing countries.

(407) Several delegates spoke very favourably of the travelling art exhibitions organized by Unesco. The delegate of the Republic of Korea told the Commission that his country had had the catalogue of the exhibition 'The Art of Islam' translated into Korean, and regretted that it had not yet been possible to show that exhibition in his country. The delegate of Botswana asked if the Organization could not pay the cost of transporting the travelling exhibitions from one village to another within a given country, so that they would not remain the privilege of large towns. Another speaker proposed that under the aegis of Unesco, a body of work should be carried out on the Flemish primitives, based on studies which had been made in various parts of the world.

The dissemination of the arts was given favourable mention by delegates who expressed great interest in Unesco's preparation, in collaboration with two non-governmental organizations, of the exhibition 'Art today'. One delegate

asked that contemporary African artists also be involved in that project. Several speakers welcomed the organization of the Slav art exhibition.

(408) In the field of music, many speakers expressed regret at the reduction in Unesco's financial contribution to the International Music Council (IMC), but also welcomed and encouraged the work undertaken by the Organization to preserve the basic traditional types of music on records and cassettes. Two delegates asked that the music of their country be included in the collection of Unesco records produced by the IMC. Several other speakers voiced their support for the preparation of the world history of music entitled 'Music in the life of man'.

Programme XI.3: Creation and creativity

(409) Very many delegates stressed the importance they attached to the programme on creation and creativity and congratulated the Secretariat on its endeavours to concentrate Programme XI.3. Most speakers approved of the diversity of that programme's activities, and of the practical, concrete emphasis given to it in the interests of genuine effectiveness. Some delegates, however, were less favourably inclined towards the activities of Programme XI.3. In their opinion, those activities did not take sufficient account of a number of urgent needs of Member States. Similarly, another delegate stated that it was time to reinvigorate some activities which seemed to him too timid and weak in relation to their aims. They hoped for greater participation by non-governmental organizations in the implementation of that programme. Other delegates, however, held that the activities of Programme XI.3 were wholly in accordance with their national cultural policies.

(410) Some delegates wondered why the budget provision for Programme XI.1, 'Cultural heritage', had been increased while that for Programme XI.3, 'Creation and creativity', had been reduced. One observed that the safeguarding of the heritage took on its full meaning only when linked with living creation. In the same connection, two delegates asked that, in future, the balance of the budget provisions should be readjusted to benefit that programme, which should receive the greatest attention from Member States during preparation of the Medium-Term Plan. One delegate was of the opinion that a society which did not create was no longer able to face the challenges of our time. Another delegate said that even the richest heritage in the world, if it ceased to inspire creative activity and become complacent, sank into repetition and imitation. Most delegates agreed in hoping that, in the context of the World Decade for Cultural Development, that programme would be given fresh impetus.

(411) The delegate of Canada invited the Secretariat to hold in his country, in co-operation with the Commission of Anthropological and Ethnographic Sci-

ences, a research and training seminar on cinematography.

Subprogramme XI.3.1: Action to promote the arts, literature and crafts

(412) A great many delegates warmly welcomed the activities provided for under Subprogramme XI.3.1 to encourage musical and theatrical activity, literary, choreographic and visual creativity, art films and crafts.

(413) Several delegates highlighted the role of music in international cultural co-operation. They recognized the importance of the four musical rostrums (Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific), organized with the assistance of the International Music Council (IMC), in the promotion of the various currents of contemporary music. The regional music rostrums, backed up by the two international rostrums of composers and young performers, were a means of encouraging and developing the creative powers of the young participants. The delegate of China conveyed his country's offer to act as host to the regional symposium provided for in paragraph 11305 (b) on traditional music in Asia and the Pacific as a source of inspiration for contemporary music. Several other delegates wished to be associated with that project. The delegate of Hungary introduced the draft resolution concerning the commemoration, in 1986, of the 175th anniversary of the birth and the centenary of the death of Franz Liszt, a major figure in nineteenth-century music, and asked the Commission to support DR.117 so that it could be adopted and reproduced in extenso in the report.

(414) In regard to dance, several delegates expressed their satisfaction at the measures proposed by the Organization in paragraph 11305 (d) for the holding of an international meeting on the use of the sources of folk dances and their adaptation for modern staging. In view of his country's great experience in that field, the delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that it would like to act as host to the meeting in 1986. The delegate of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea hoped that Unesco would pay sustained attention to new trends in notation for dance, and proposed the organization, on the basis of what had already been achieved in his country and in co-operation with Unesco, of an international seminar on the new methods of notation for dance. Two delegates wanted their countries to be associated with the planned studies on the renewal of forms of choreographic expression in Africa and in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the delegate of the Ivory Coast said that his country would like to host the meeting on that subject scheduled for 1988.

(415) One of the speakers wanted a larger financial contribution for the programme concerning the theatre. The delegate of Laos asked for Unesco's assistance in revitalizing the puppet theatre in his country. Several delegates

said that their countries would like to take part in the organization of a regional meeting, provided for in paragraph 11305 (g), on the role of contemporary dramatic art in socio-economic development, which might be held in Asia and the Pacific or in Latin America and the Caribbean. With regard to the project for the preparation of a world encyclopedia of contemporary theatre in co-operation with the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the delegate of the Republic of Korea informed the Commission that his country proposed to organize a meeting on that subject in 1986.

(416) One speaker laid stress on the renewal of visual-art forms. In that connection, he drew attention to the need for drawing up a list of people active in the visual arts in Africa. The delegate of Portugal, on behalf of the Gulbenkian Foundation, offered to act as host to the meeting provided for in paragraph 11305 (i) on the promotion of creativity in the plastic arts, on the basis of a better understanding of the various national and regional forms of contemporary art.

(417) Several other delegates laid emphasis on the contribution made by artists to the maintenance of peace, with particular reference to writers who, by their works, helped to do away with the prejudices that kept peoples apart. Several delegates again spoke of their interest in literature, either supporting the International PEN or drawing attention to the contribution made by writers to the solution of contemporary cultural crises. The symposium on the vigorous part played by Latin American and Caribbean literature in world literary creativity, provided for in paragraph 11305 (k), was favourably received, and the delegate of Brazil hoped that it would be held in his country. Other delegates wanted experts from their countries, even though they were not of the region, to be able to participate in the organization of the meeting. Some delegates hoped that Unesco would further the exchange of experience among poets, particularly through the poetry festivals, held in various regions of the world, which helped poets writing in languages that were not widely spoken to become better known.

(418) On the subject of the cinema, some delegates remarked that more meaningful activities needed to be carried out, as the financial resources allocated to that medium were insufficient. Several of them endorsed draft resolution 273 submitted by Greece, proposing that the activity provided for in paragraph 11305 (l) be restored to the first-priority category. The delegate of Greece informed the Commission that his country hoped that the proposed meeting on art films for which preparations had been made under 22 C/5 in co-operation with the International Film and Television Council (IFTC), would be held at the European Centre in Delphi.

(419) So far as the programme to promote the development of crafts was

concerned, the proposed project for the establishment of an international research group to examine methods for the collection of significant statistical data on crafts and to draw up an inventory of the most typical traditional craft techniques received unanimous approval. Several delegates hoped that specialists from their countries would be associated in the execution of that project. The delegate of Niger explained that his country had already embarked on training and inventorying in co-operation with the African Cultural Institute and the Musée dynamique, Niamey. The same delegate proposed that the meeting on that subject provided for in paragraph 11306 (a) be held in his country and suggested that the African Cultural Institute (ACI), the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACTC), the World Crafts Council (WCC) and the Federation for the Development of Utilitarian Crafts (FEDEAU) be associated with Unesco's Sector for Culture and Office of Statistics in its organization. In his opinion, the crafts should have a prominent place, alongside books and the performing arts, in the statistics of Member States and of Unesco.

Subprogramme XI.3.2: Training of creative and performing artists and craftsmen

(420) Many delegates referred to the need for the initial and further training of artists and craftsmen to be given greater attention under Programme XI.3, in view of the contributions that new technologies were making to the development of fresh approaches and methods. Certain delegates were glad that the training courses organized in connection with the University of the Theatre of Nations by the International Theatre Institute (ITI) were intended for young people. One delegate submitted an oral amendment to paragraph 11312 (a) to the Commission, suggesting that the prepared text be changed slightly by inserting the words 'and administrators' between 'young professionals' and 'from different theatre disciplines'. Another delegate felt that the training of young artists and craftsmen could be carried out in connection with Subprogramme V.1.1 - Education, culture and languages of instruction. Some delegates wanted training activities to be extended to the training of young children with regard to their introduction to contemporary art, particularly through films at school; and two other delegates regretted that there were no activities relating to the aesthetic education of young children and adolescents, which now came under Subprogramme V.1.1.

(421) Several delegates commended the Secretariat on the way in which it had been able to encourage the use of new technologies in the various fields of training for artists and writers. The delegate of Canada hoped, on behalf of his country, that the research seminar for cinematographical trainers on the art of depicting the daily life and artistic expression of Amerindian peoples in

North, Central and South America, provided for in paragraph 11312 (b), would be held at the University of Montreal, and asked for the International Commission on Visual Anthropology to be associated in the organization of that project. The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany, referring to his country's experience in that field, hoped that the experimental training workshop on the use of audio-visual techniques (video and videotext) as instruments of creativity in the field of the plastic arts, provided for in paragraph 11312 (c), might be held there.

(422) The activities for the training of traditional craftsmen and artists attracted particular attention from delegates. Proposing that the pilot workshop on traditional and modern techniques of leatherwork in the Arab region, provided for in paragraph 11313 (a), be held in his country, the delegate of Morocco pointed out that leatherworking and dyeing kept a considerable number of both men and women employed in his country. The same delegate said that there was a growing need to improve and promote the artistic aspect of that heritage. The delegate of Thailand offered, on behalf of his country, to host the planned pilot workshop for women on the techniques of dyeing and weaving in Asia, and invited the countries of the region to join in with that initiative. Several delegates regretted that second priority had been given to the project concerning advisory expert services for the setting up of training schemes for traditional craftsmen and artists.

(423) Several delegates informed the Commission of the establishment in their respective countries of national and regional training centres, cultural institutes and arts councils which were endeavouring to foster the various manifestations of artistic creation and crafts. They wished to obtain assistance from Unesco in the form of fellowships, consultants, equipment and financial support for their various activities.

Subprogramme XI.3.3: The arts and society

(424) The projects designed to promote the application of the Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (Belgrade, 1980), by providing a more thorough knowledge of the situation of art and artists in contemporary societies aroused the interest of several delegates, who expressed concern about the effects of the growth of audio-visual productions on the socio-economic status of artists, particularly actors and musicians. They wanted the research work undertaken in 1984 in that field to be continued.

(425) The projects concerning the contribution of artists to the production of frequently used objects and services, as well as to architectural and town-planning programmes, were well received. One speaker was pleased to see the discipline of design included in

Unesco's programmes since 1984. The delegate of Kenya wished his country to host the regional research seminar provided for in paragraph 11320 (a) on the adaptation of graphic design to the daily needs of people living in different socio-cultural contexts. He thought that that seminar should be organized in collaboration with the International Council of Graphic Design Associations (ICOGRADA) whose expertise was sought often not only in the industrialized countries but, to an even greater extent, in developing societies so as to meet needs concerning methods of offering both verbal and visual solutions to communication problems.

(426) Several delegates supported the activity proposed in paragraph 11320 (c) concerning the research seminar on new forms of involvement of artists in architectural, town planning and cultural activity programmes. The delegate of Czechoslovakia, recalling the survey conducted by Unesco over the past two years on the subject in co-operation with the International Association of Art (IAA) expressed the wish that his country might host the seminar in 1987.

(427) Expressing the view that it was necessary to gain a better knowledge of art forms and aesthetic perceptions as they were affected by the development of science and technology, one delegate regretted that the three projects relating to those subjects had been downgraded from first to second priority as the result of the Executive Board's decision, whereas they appeared to be innovative and future-oriented in character.

(428) Presenting draft resolution 180, the delegate of Switzerland regretted that, unlike in the first biennium, the contribution of artists to the education of children was no longer to be found in the programme. He recalled that the seminar that had been held in Nice (France) in 1985 on the role of artists in schools and that which was to be held at Nimo (Nigeria) in pursuance of the 22 C/5 demonstrated the importance that creative artists should attach to awaking the creative faculties of children. He deplored the transfer of these activities to Subprogramme V.1.1 - Education, culture and languages of instruction - and thought that Unesco should revert to the 22 C/5 conception. Other delegates shared the concern of the delegate of Switzerland.

(429) Many speakers expressed their satisfaction with the important role played by non-governmental organizations, which placed their networks at the disposal of the Organization, were implementing several activities of Programme XI.3 under contract and conducting other programmes that were complementary to those of Unesco. One delegate was gratified to see that, for the first time, a subvention had been granted to the International Dance Council. Many delegates expressed their concern at the cuts in the subventions. They feared that such measures would have an adverse effect on the impact of

non-governmental organizations in the world and on the implementation of their respective programmes. They all hoped that the current measures would be of a temporary nature. The representatives of the non-governmental organizations, in presenting their plans for the future, pointed out that the proposed budget cuts would seriously affect the implementation of their programmes and that any further cut would deal a truly mortal blow to the continuation of their activities and would affect the very fabric of international co-operation by turning the attention of national centres inwards.

Programme XI.4: Cultural development and cultural policies

(430) Almost all the delegates stressed the importance of this programme in the preparation and implementation of the World Decade for Cultural Development and emphasized the similarity between the activities proposed in Programme XI.4, their own national experience concerning policies and action to promote such development, and the conclusions of the World Conference on Cultural Policies (Mexico, 1982). Several speakers expressed their appreciation of the Secretariat's efforts to concentrate the programme actions but at the same time emphasized that it could be carried too far, to the detriment of the substance and impact of certain actions, such as those provided for in the subprogramme on cultural development policies and participation in cultural life.

(431) Though all speakers stressed the essential complementarity of economic development and cultural development, many of them indicated that their primary interest lay in training activities, especially those designed to make economic, social and political decision-makers more aware of the cultural factors of development. Many delegates also expressed their satisfaction with the activities included under international cultural co-operation, which would enable all peoples to assert their cultural identity and to accept those of other peoples in the spirit of understanding and peace.

(432) Certain delegates would have liked Programme XI.4 to give more consideration to fields such as the participation of young people and women in cultural life, the problems of migrants and the creative use of leisure. One delegation expressed the wish for improved co-ordination between the operational programmes (financed by extra-budgetary funds) and the regular programmes.

(433) Lastly, during the discussion of Programme XI.4, many delegates reaffirmed their interest in the World Decade for Cultural Development and spoke of the great expectations aroused in their countries by that ambitious project. The delegate of Japan expressed his satisfaction with the resolution adopted and said that the draft Plan of Action, contained a series of proposals for action which needed to be improved

and made more specific. He concluded by stressing Japan's support for the Decade and his country's intention to take an active part in it.

Subprogramme XI.4.1: The cultural dimension of development

(434) All those who spoke laid particularly strong emphasis on the importance of taking the cultural dimension of development into account, and they repeatedly reaffirmed that culture was not simply a dimension, but the motive force, the prerequisite and indeed the ultimate purpose of the process of human development, as well as of dialogue between peoples and nations. Many delegates stressed the fact that the actions proposed concern not only the developing countries but also the industrialized countries.

(435) The subject of the interactions between culture and the key sectors of economic and social development, especially the economy, education, communication, science and technology, was broached by a number of speakers. Some particularly emphasized the need to stimulate exchanges and joint research projects on the interactions between culture and development at the regional and interregional levels. It was forcefully pointed out that such interactions did exist and that it was necessary to build upon their positive features. One delegate emphasized that there should be a close link between that subprogramme and Major Programme VIII (Principles, methods and strategies of action for development), but also that that subprogramme should be kept as part of Major Programme XI (Culture and the future).

(436) All speakers showed great interest in the pilot projects (paragraph 11406), which enabled concrete studies to be made of the specific contributions of culture to programmes of social and economic development, and most delegates found that that subprogramme struck a harmonious balance between research and operational activities. Three speakers regretted that too great a part of the resources was devoted to research on the interactions between culture and the key sectors of development, and they would have preferred part of the budget provision for that research to be transferred to pilot projects. The delegate of the Republic of Korea, on behalf of his country, expressed an interest in hosting the meeting of directors of centres and institutes engaged in research on the interaction between culture, economics and society (paragraph 11405 (a)).

Subprogramme XI.4.2: Cultural development policies and participation in cultural life

(437) Many delegates saw the participation of the population as a whole in cultural creation as one of the fundamental tasks of any cultural development policy. In that connection

many stressed the importance of the participation of young people, women and cultural minorities such as migrants. Several statements emphasized the value of regional and subregional co-operation in cultural policies. A number of speakers told the Commission of initiatives and projects in their countries in the realm of cultural policy. Experiments in harmonization of action in culture, education and communication were considered essential by some delegations. Many delegates also considered that the implementation of cultural development plans and projects was an area where the activities proposed as regards both cultural industries and consultative services for the identification, preparation and evaluation of cultural development policies, plans, programmes and projects were of great importance.

(438) With regard to the actions proposed in the field of participation in cultural life, several delegates welcomed those which dealt with stimulating the participation of women in cultural development, as both beneficiaries and agents (paragraphs 11412 (d) and (e)). Some delegates regretted that second priority only had been given to support for projects to test methods and techniques of socio-cultural promotion making for participation in cultural development by specific culturally underprivileged groups, including young people, the elderly or particular minorities, especially migrant workers (paragraph 11412 (c)).

(439) Similar regrets were expressed by several delegates with regard to studies and research on cultural policies (paragraph 11413). Many delegates welcomed Unesco's practical support for Member States by means of advisory services, technical missions, study tours, fellowships and equipment (paragraph 11414 (c)). Some speakers regretted that only second priority had been given to making known experiments in the field of cultural policy and cultural development (paragraph 11415). The national monographs were still considered useful, even if some of them seemed to be in need of updating.

Subprogramme XI.4.3: Training of cultural development personnel

(440) This subprogramme met with the strong and unanimous approval of all speakers, some of whom pointed out that it was in line with a constant concern of the Member States. The actions envisaged under the training of cultural development personnel (paragraph 11422) were welcomed by all speakers and the active collaboration of national and regional training centres was highlighted. Several delegates stressed the need to make the agents of economic and social development aware of the cultural dimension of their work. One speaker considered that the subprogramme was underfinanced and said he would have liked the financial balance to be readjusted by a transfer of funds from Subprogramme XI.4.4.

Subprogramme XI.4.4: International cultural co-operation

(441) A broad consensus emerged approving the activities in the subprogramme, in particular in the context of the strengthening of the international community's efforts for international understanding and peace. In the view of one speaker, it was that programme that should receive priority within Major Programme XI, since it translated Unesco's most generous ideals into operational terms. All participants more especially welcomed the actions in the subprogramme concerning the World Decade for Cultural Development. They pointed out that it took on particular importance at the time of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Co-operation, adopted by the General Conference in 1966. In addition, several speakers mentioned the European Cultural Forum being held in Budapest (October-November 1985) within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, and highlighted the importance of the conclusions of that Forum. Finally, many delegates regarded as particularly satisfactory the continuation of activities relating to the work carried out in the different regions on the basis of joint studies on subjects connected with cultural development. The continuation of co-operation with National Commissions, appropriate inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, cultural foundations and regional or international development aid bodies for the implementation of cultural development projects was also considered important.

(442) Several speakers attached great importance to Unesco's contribution to the preparation of an international symposium on 'the role of cultural workers and artists in work for peace' (paragraph 11428 (e)). The delegate of the German Democratic Republic announced that his country was interested in hosting the symposium in the framework of the International Year of Peace (1986). As regards cultural documentation and information exchanges, some delegates would have wished intellectual and financial contributions to cultural information and documentation institutions (paragraph 11430 (c)) and contracts for the preparation of national and regional thesauri (paragraph 11430 (d)) to be given first priority. One delegation regretted that the actions in connection with the establishment of a cultural data bank under the subprogramme had been discontinued. The delegate of Gabon wanted the African Cultural Institute (ICA, Dakar) to be associated with Unesco's work. The delegate of Japan expressed the same wish in regard to the Asian Cultural Centre for Unesco (ACCU, Tokyo).

(443) Practically all the speakers welcomed the rich and varied activities of the International Fund for the Promotion of Culture and associated themselves with the appeal by the

Chairman of the Administrative Council of the Fund for voluntary contributions to increase the Fund's capital. Several speakers said they would like the Fund to be closely associated with the programme of action for the World Decade for Cultural Development.

(444) Lastly, the delegation of Venezuela stressed the importance of the International Simón Bolívar Prize, which was intended to reward activity of outstanding merit that had contributed to the freedom, independence and dignity of peoples and to the strengthening of solidarity among nations. The delegate of Venezuela pointed out that the Prize had been awarded in 1985 to the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela).

(445) Replying to the general discussion on Programmes XI.2, XI.3 and XI.4, the Assistant Director-General for Culture assured the Commission that the Secretariat was still aware of the importance of the programmes concerned with research and studies on cultural identities, with the assistance that should be given to regional cultural events and to festivals, and with the studies on European cultures contained in the Organization's Major Programme XI.

(446) Bearing that in mind, he launched an appeal to the countries concerned regarding the response to the current consultations over the possible establishment of a regional liaison office for the Mediterranean cultures.

(447) With respect to intercultural relations, the Assistant Director-General thanked the delegate of Turkey for informing the Commission of the establishment of a Centre for the study of the architectural heritage of the Mediterranean region at the University of Sinan. He assured Turkey of Unesco's co-operation. He also told the delegate of Benin that, in consultation and co-ordination with his country and other Member States, Unesco would be willing to look into the possibility of setting up, at Ouidah, a research centre on relations between Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean.

(448) Turning to the dissemination of cultures, the Assistant Director-General reassured the delegates who had referred to the choice of publishers and editors for the Unesco collection of representative works, and to the efforts to be made to ensure more effective publicity and improvements in the promotion of that activity. Replying to a request concerning the possibility of the Organization providing for the transportation of travelling art exhibitions within Member States, the Assistant Director-General for Culture recalled the principle laid down when this activity first started, namely, that it was the responsibility of Member States to cover such costs. However, he said that the Secretariat was willing to examine the case of certain developing countries with a view to finding a solution to this problem.

(449) With regard to Programme XI.3

'Creation and creativity', the Assistant Director-General was pleased to note the satisfaction expressed with the new programme concentration and in particular with the subprogramme dealing with the training of traditional craftsmen and artists. He had taken note of the remarks of many delegates concerning the inadequacy of the resources allocated to this programme which, in the view of two delegates, would make it necessary in the future to readjust the balance between the financial resources accorded to the Cultural Heritage programme and those accorded to the Creation and Creativity programme. In view of the current financial difficulties, the Assistant Director-General said that it was hardly possible to effect such a readjustment immediately but he suggested that Member States give some thought to the criteria on which such a readjustment could be based.

(450) The Assistant Director-General was gratified by the warm support given to the work accomplished by non-governmental organizations. He thanked their representatives for the outstanding services rendered to the Organization by the non-governmental organizations. On the question of the budgetary restrictions affecting the subventions to the non-governmental organizations, the Assistant Director-General welcomed the idea of an in-depth study on their activities, especially since paragraph 11319 (c) already provided for activities connected with such an evaluation, which would be conducted by the Secretariat in the course of the next biennium.

(451) The Assistant Director-General thanked the 12 delegates who, on behalf of their countries, had expressed the wish to host the meetings, workshops and training course provided for in Programme XI.3 in their respective countries. These invitations showed that the programme reflected the needs and wishes of Member States.

(452) With respect to the statements regarding Programme XI.4 'Cultural development and cultural policies', the Assistant Director-General welcomed the very favourable reception given to the actions proposed on the cultural dimension of development, the training of cultural development personnel, and international co-operation. He once again stressed the importance of taking cultural factors into consideration in strategies and plans for economic, social, scientific and technological development, not only in developing but also in industrialized countries. He also emphasized the need to strengthen international cultural co-operation, in particular with a view to the implementation of the Plan of Action for the World Decade for Cultural Development.

Recommendations relating to consideration of discussion unit 17

- A. The following draft resolutions were considered inadmissible:

(a) Draft resolutions proposing new activities involving expenditure of \$10,000 or more which had been received by the Secretariat after 23 July 1985

(453) 23 C/DR.21 dealing with a travelling exhibition of old photographs.

(454) 23 C/DR.22 to increase the budget for paragraph 11412 by \$33,000.

(455) 23 C/DR.30 to raise the budget provided for Subprogramme XI.4.1 (paragraph 11406 (b)) from \$50,000 to \$75,000 with a view to adding a third pilot project on participation in cultural life to be conducted in Latin America.

(456) 23 C/DR.192 concerning the establishment by Kenya of an International Academy of Music requiring aid of \$10 million.

(b) Draft resolutions proposing transfers to first priority without budgetary compensation

(457) 23 C/DR.55 concerning the transfer to first priority of paragraph 11212 (d) relating to arts festivals.

(458) 23 C/DR.105 giving subparagraph 3 (d) of paragraph 11430 first priority.

(459) 23 C/DR.194 concerning the transfer to first priority of activities relating to cultural events and regional festivals.

(460) 23 C/DR.219 concerning the transfer to first priority of the cultural studies and research projects under paragraph 11211.

(461) 23 C/DR.257 relating to the sixth Meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee for the Pacific Cultures Project.

B. Draft resolutions withdrawn

The following draft resolutions were withdrawn by their authors in the light of explanations given by the Director-General.

(462) 23 C/DR.17 (first proposal) relating to booklets on the history of Slav cultures.

(463) 23 C/DR.43 on the cultural atlas of the Malay world and the comparative study of the traditional practices and technologies of the Malay people.

(464) 23 C/DR.73 (second proposal) deleting subparagraphs (d) and (e) of paragraph 11209 and transferring the activities concerned to subparagraphs (b) and (j), XI.2.1.

(465) 23 C/DR.152 requesting the upgrading to first priority of the action proposed in 1 (c) of paragraph 11412. This draft resolution, after a brief discussion was withdrawn by its author. (The Commission, however, noted the concern of the delegation of Yugoslavia that the problems of migrant workers should be actively dealt with.)

(466) 23 C/DR.198 to rephrase paragraph 11428 (e).

C. Draft resolutions noted

(a) Without budgetary implications'

The Commission recommended unanimously that the General Conference take note of the following draft resolutions and invite the Director-General to take account of them as far as possible in the implementation of the Approved Programme and Budget.

(467) 23 C/DR.84 requesting Unesco's support under Major Programme XI.

(468) 23 C/DR.180 concerning implementation of the Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist.

(469) 23 C/DR.194 (first part) dealing with a review of the benefits to be derived from the funding of cultural festivals.

(470) 23 C/DR.225 requesting the Director-General to examine ways and means for co-operation between Unesco and the 'Josip Broz Tito' Art Gallery of Non-Aligned Countries in Titograd.

(471) 23 C/DR.233 Rev. concerning a meeting of experts on the safeguarding of manuscripts of contemporary authors (as amended in Commission at the suggestion of the Legal Adviser).

(472) 23 C/DR.234 requesting that the text of paragraph 11405 (a) be amended by adding the word 'science' between the words 'culture' and 'economics'.

(473) 23 C/DR.235 requesting that paragraphs 11426 and 11427 be amended as follows: paragraph 11426, first subparagraph: after the words 'especially cultural co-operation among developing countries,' add the words 'to study in greater depth culture's contribution to international co-operation and the role of culture in the promotion of human rights, understanding among peoples and peace'; paragraph 11427, fourth subparagraph, replace by the following: 'development of consultations between Unesco, international governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with cultural co-operation, National Commissions, foundations having cultural functions and development assistance organizations for the implementation of cultural co-operation projects' (the last phrase having been suggested by the Director-General in his Note).

(474) 23 C/DR.250 on the translation and dissemination of masterpieces of Persian literature and the organization of meetings on the thought of eminent Persian-speaking personalities.

(475) 23 C/DR.253 (point 1) requesting the extension to the Pacific region of the activities for the training of cultural personnel provided for in paragraphs 11421 (b) and 11422 (a).

(476) 23 C/DR.267 concerning support for the translation and publication of the works of Imam Al-Ghazali (who was born and died at Tus, Iran).

(477) 23 C/DR.269 concerning participation in the international symposium 'Ivan Franko and world culture' (as amended at the suggestion of the Director-General).

(478) 23 C/DR.270 concerning inexpen-

sive editions of abridged versions of the History of the Scientific and Cultural Development of Mankind, and measures to enable the International Commission to complete its work.

(479) 23 C/DR.277 requesting the addition in paragraph 11427 of the words 'at the national and regional level' after 'Establishment or development ... centres and networks' (text amended according to the Note by the Director-General).

(480) 23 C/DR.290 concerning the possibility of setting up a data base on sources relating to the history of South-East Europe, and the possible inclusion of this activity in the draft 24 C/5 (as amended at the suggestion of the Director-General).

(b) Draft resolutions with budgetary implications

The following draft resolutions with budgetary implications were approved by the Commission.

(481) 23 C/DR.17 (as regards the second proposal, the first having been withdrawn) concerning financial support to the International Association for the Study and Dissemination of Slav Cultures (IASDSC/MAIRSK): in the light of the comments by the Director-General and the amendment submitted by the sponsor during the debate, it was recommended that the General Conference take note of this draft resolution, with a budget provision of \$9,500, to be allocated from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(482) 23 C/DR.73 (first proposal, the second having been withdrawn) concerning the continuation of financial assistance to the International Association for the Study of the Cultures of Central Asia (IASCCA): in the light of the comments by the Director-General and the amendment submitted by the sponsor during the debate, it was recommended that the General Conference take note of this draft resolution, with a budget provision of \$9,000, to be allocated from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(483) 23 C/DR.243 concerning the reciprocal influence between Western and Turkish music: although some reservations were expressed, with regard to the wording of the draft resolution, it was recommended that the General Conference take note of this draft resolution, with a budget provision of \$9,000 to be allocated from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions.

(484) 23 C/DR.273 concerning the organization at Delphi of an international seminar on the art film. In the light of the comments of the Director-General, this draft resolution was recommended to the General Conference for a sum of \$9,000, to be drawn from the Reserve of \$1 million provided for the financing of draft resolutions.

(485) 23 C/DR.281 concerning the activities which the International Music Council (IMC) undertakes under contract with Unesco. In the light of the comments of the Director-General and the amendment

submitted by the author during the discussion, this draft resolution is recommended to the General Conference for a sum of \$9,900, to be drawn from the Reserve of \$1 million for the financing of draft resolutions.

(486) 23 C/DR.289 on the contribution to the programme of research on South-East European Cultures. In the light of the comments of the Director-General, it is recommended that the General Conference should take note of the draft resolution with a budgetary provision of \$9,900 to be drawn from the Reserve for draft resolutions.

D. Draft resolutions recommended for adoption by the General Conference

(487) The Commission unanimously decided to recommend that the General Conference should adopt *in extenso* draft resolutions 23 C/DR. 117, 193, 206, 218 and 280 (see 23 C/Resolutions 11.7, 11.8, 11.9, 11.11 and 11.12).

E. Draft resolution amending the resolution proposed in document 23 C/5

(488) 23 C/DR.143 (United Kingdom) proposed the transfer to first priority of paragraph 11313 (b) and the downgrading to second priority of paragraphs 11305 (e) and (g), and 11320 (b) and (c). After a brief discussion, the Commission decided to recommend the downgrading to second priority of paragraph 11320 (b). Paragraph 11313 (b), on the other hand, would be transferred, for a sum of \$15,000, to first priority (the other \$23,000 remaining in second priority), everything being reflected in the annex to resolution 11.1 (see 23 C/Resolution 11.1).

F. Approval of resolution 11.1

(489) The Commission recommended that the General Conference should adopt resolution 11.1 in respect of paragraph 6, subparagraphs (b), (c) and (d) (as amended by 23 C/DR.136 and 23 C/DR.143) (see 23 C/Resolution 11.1).

G. Work plan

(490) The Commission decided to recommend that the General Conference should take note of the Work Plan corresponding to Programmes XI.2, XI.3, and XI.4 with modifications that have been adopted.

H. Approval of the budget provision for unit 17

(491) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$11,018,700 (paragraphs 11201, 11301 and 11401 of the draft 23 C/5 for Programmes XI.2, XI.3 and XI.4, without the participation programme, after the placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) of a sum of \$4,863,600 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being

understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to Programmes XI.2, XI.3 and XI.4 from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

I. Approval of the budget provision for Major Programme XI

(492) Having taken separate note of the budget provisions for Programmes XI.1, XI.2, XI.3 and XI.4 and for the participation programme, the Commission recommended that the General Conference

should approve, for Major Programme XI, the budget provision of \$19,681,800 under the regular programme (paragraph 11001 of document 23 C/5), after the placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Block Funds) of a sum of \$8,568,000 for second priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this Major Programme from the Reserve for Draft Resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

ANNEX TO THE REPORT OF COMMISSION IV

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF DISCUSSION UNIT 4 AND ITEM 4.1

23 C/DR.6 (Ukrainian SSR), 23 C/ DR.7 (USSR), 23 C/15 (Rev.) (Sri Lanka), 23 C/DR.41 (Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand), 23 C/DR.42 (Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand), 23 C/DR.45 + Corr. (Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand); 23 C/DR.60 (Mongolia); 23 C/DR.78 (Rev.) (Czechoslovakia); 23 C/DR.85 (Byelorussian SSR); 23 C/DR.87 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.89 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.90 (Czechoslovakia); 23 C/DR.94 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.95 (Poland); 23 C/DR.129 (France); 23 C/DR.143 + Add. + Add.2 + Annex (United Kingdom); 23 C/DR.147 (Hungary); 23 C/ DR.148 + Rev. (Hungary); 23 C/DR.149 (Hungary); 23 C/DR.216 (USSR); 23 C/DR.232 (Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland); 23 C/DR.236 (USSR); 23 C/DR.238 + Corr. (USSR) 23 C/DR.244 (United Kingdom); 23 C/DR.268 (United Kingdom and Federal Republic of Germany); 23 C/COM.IV/DR.2 (German Democratic Republic).

At its seventh meeting, Commission IV decided to set up a working group to facilitate its work, particularly with regard to 26 draft resolutions submitted to the Commission that could not find consensus for approval, whether or not they had budgetary implications. These draft resolutions involved transfer of funds and changes in priorities in Major Programme III, or changes in the Work Plan. Five (23 C/DRs. 15 (Rev.), 89, 95, 129, 268) also proposed changes in resolution 3.1.

The group was composed of the following Member States:

Group I: Denmark, France, United Kingdom, Group II: German Democratic Republic, Poland, USSR; Group III: Brazil, Cuba,

Venezuela; Group IV: Japan, Pakistan, Philippines; Group V (a): Algeria, Morocco, Yemen Arab Republic; Group V (b) Congo, Malawi, Nigeria.

The group met on 24, 25, 26 and 28 October under the chairmanship of Mr Alfred Opubor (Nigeria).

In its deliberations, the group was guided by the decisions taken by the General Committee covering the methods to be used by the Commission for the examination of adjustments to the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 and the explanations given by the representative of the Director-General at the Commission IV, Unit 4, on the budget envelope assigned to the Commission.

In particular the working group noted that:

- (a) Commissions must endeavour to remain within budgetary limits allocated to each of them or, if they make any adjustments (increases or decreases) these must balance out;
- (b) any overrun of the budget ceiling allocated to a Commission must be offset by reductions of an equivalent total amount in the budget allocated to the other commissions by decisions of the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

The Commission started its discussions using a working document prepared by the Secretariat of the Commission which divided the draft resolutions into groups: (a) those affecting the resolution; (b) those affecting the work plan; (c) those with budgetary implications.

This method of work was modified and discussions proceeded by areas of interest, in an attempt to merge several

Programme Commissions

draft resolutions into revised texts which reflected a consensus and budgetary priorities assigned by the group.

The working group presented to Commission IV for its consideration the following:

With respect to 23 C/DR.6 submitted by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic

Add a new subparagraph (h) to paragraph **03214 as follows: 'organization, in co-operation with Member States and appropriate intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations, of three studies, in different geographical areas, on the contribution the media make to the creation of a climate of confidence and to peace, mutual knowledge and international understanding. \$10,000'

The working group noted that all items of 23 C/DR.6 were withdrawn except the operative paragraph and the budgetary allocation attached to it, amended by the consensus text above, to be inserted as a new item (h) in subparagraph 03214 with the same amount. The working group recommended that this amount of \$10,000 corresponding to the revised text be financed out of the reduction of \$10,000 resulting from the amendment of paragraph 03214 (1) (a) following decisions on DR.216.

The delegation of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was consulted and agreed with the proposed amendment.

With respect to 23 C/DR.7 submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Add a new subparagraph (i) to paragraph **03214 as follows: 'Contribution to the organization in 1986-1987, under contract with representative international non-governmental organizations and/or professional associations, of an international symposium for organizations and persons professionally involved in communication to consider the effect of the 1978 Declaration on the Media. \$9,500'

The working group noted that all items of 23 C/DR.7 were withdrawn with the exception of operative paragraph (h) which should be amended to read as the consensus text above. The working group recommended that the amount of \$9,500 corresponding to item (h) of DR.7 as revised be financed out of the reserve for draft resolutions.

With respect to 23 C/DR.15 (Rev.) submitted by Sri Lanka

The working group noted that all items were withdrawn, with the exception of the changes proposed to resolution 3.1 in respect to the operative paragraph of DR.15 (Rev.) which should read as follows:

Paragraph 03002, subparagraph 8(b) (i)

Add in line 6, after the word 'communication' the following phrase: 'in particular, by studying the possibility

of introducing preferential telecommunications tariffs'; add 's' to the word 'profession'.

Paragraph 03002, subparagraph 10 (b)

At the end of subparagraph, add 'and their respective citizens'.

Paragraph 03002, subparagraph 10(f)

At the end of subparagraph, add: 'and also that can facilitate the acquisition of new technologies'.

The work plan should be amended as follows:

As regards Programme III.3.1, paragraph **03306, add a new subparagraph between (b) and (c) to read as follows: 'contribution to the creation of a system of information and data exchange between institutions of developing countries concerned with the development and application of modern communication technologies. \$30,000'

In programme III.3.2, following the recommendation of the Executive Board and DR.129, to transfer subparagraph *03315 (e) from second to first priority, it is proposed that this activity be included as paragraph **03313 (e): Also add to paragraph **03314 new items which should read as follows:

Paragraph **03314 (f): 'Assistance to the projects of developing countries involving research, design and development of modern communication technology, including the provision of up-to-date information, prototype plans and the assistance of specialized consultants in this field. \$100,000'

Paragraph **03314 (g): 'Contribution to technological innovations designed to make satellite communication systems more widely available, in co-operation with such organizations as INSAT, PALAPA, AFRICASAT, ARABSAT and CARISAT. \$80,000'

The working group recommended that the amount of £210,000 corresponding to the amended text of DR.15 (Rev.), be financed out of the reserve for draft resolutions received within the time limit. The new paragraph 03314 (e) will be financed out of the funds indicated in document 23 C/6 and Add., which the Executive Board recommended should be placed in reserve. The delegation of Sri Lanka was consulted and agreed with the above amendment.

With respect to 23 C/DR.41 submitted by Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand

The working group noted that the representative of Group IV had withdrawn this draft resolution.

With respect to 23 C/DR.42 submitted by Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand

This draft resolution 'requests the Director-General to assign high priority of funding particularly to subparagraphs

(b), (c), (d) and (g) of paragraph **03348, and within the limitations of the budget to be approved, to augment the sums assigned to these paragraphs.' The Executive Board had recommended the downgrading of subparagraphs (a), (d) and (g) of paragraph **03348.

The working group noted the draft resolution and recommended to the Commission that the amount of \$53,000 corresponding to the upgrading of paragraphs 03348 (d) (g) be financed out of the reserve for draft resolutions with financial implications received within the time limit.

With respect to 23 C/DR.45 and 45 Corr. submitted by Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand

This draft resolution 'invites the Director-General to accord first priority to the establishment or strengthening of procedures for the co-production, by developing countries, of films and audio-visual programmes within the framework of TCDC, paragraph *03331 (a)'.

The working group noted DR.45 and 45 Corr., and recommended to the Commission that the amount of \$120,000 be financed out of the reserve for draft resolutions which were received within the time limit.

With respect to 23 C/DR.60 submitted by the Mongolian People's Republic and 23 C/DR.236 submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The working group noted that all items of DR.60 and DR.236 had been withdrawn and recommended to the Commission to amend paragraph **03106 (2) (e) of the work plan as follows, without any changes in the amount proposed in the Draft Programme and Budget (23 C/5):

Paragraph **03106 (2) (e): 'Collection and analysis of information dealing with the development of the concept of a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process, in association with the non-governmental organizations concerned and research institutions and, with a view to help solve the most urgent needs of developing countries, broadening the study base when necessary (cf. 22 C/5 Approved, paragraph 03113). \$5,800'

The delegation of the Mongolian People's Republic was consulted and agreed with the proposed consensus.

With respect to 23 C/DR.78 (Rev.) submitted by Czechoslovakia

The working group, after discussion, suggested that the draft resolution should be submitted to Unesco through channels such as the participation programme for the next biennium.

With respect to 23 C/DR.85 submitted by the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic

The working group noted that the

draft resolution had been withdrawn and that the delegation, which was consulted, accepted the merger consensus text proposed in replacement of DR.60 and DR.236.

With respect to 23 C/DR.87 submitted by the German Democratic Republic

The working group noted that all items of DR.87 had been withdrawn and a consensus text was proposed to the Commission, amending paragraph **03205 - (1) (c) as follows:

'Dissemination of four studies on censorship and self-censorship prepared during the preceding biennium and preparation of four new studies thereon in countries with different economic and social systems. \$21,600'

The working group noted that this amendment had no budgetary implications and that the amount proposed in 23 C/5 Draft Programme and Budget remained unchanged.

With respect to 23 C/DR.89 submitted by the German Democratic Republic

The working group noted that all items of DR.89 had been withdrawn and proposed to the Commission the following consensus text to amend resolution 3.1:

Paragraph 03002

(a) Add, at the end of 8(b)(i), the following text: '... including professional and legal problems in the work of communicators.'

(b) Subparagraph 10(d) should be amended as follows: 'Take account, in the implementation of the programme, of the need to reflect knowledge about different solutions to communication problems having regard to the social, political, cultural and economic diversity of the contemporary world.'

The working group noted that the amendments did not conflict with the proposed amendments to resolution 3.1 approved in connection with DR.15 (Rev.) and that there were no budgetary implications attached to these changes.

With respect to 23 C/DR.90 submitted by Czechoslovakia, 23 C/DR.94 submitted by the German Democratic Republic and 23 C/DR.95 submitted by Poland

The working group noted that all items of 23 C/DRs. 90, 94 and 95 were withdrawn and submitted to the Commission the following consensus text to be added as a new subparagraph (d) to paragraph *03208 (4) with one asterisk.

'A study, in collaboration with a broadly based selection of professional international non-governmental organizations specializing in the fields of press and communications, on the professional and legal problems encountered in each of the geographical regions, in the application of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as Articles 19 and 20 of the International Covenant of Political and Civil Rights, in the work of communicators \$10,000'.

Programme Commissions

The working group recommended that the sum of \$10,000 be included in Part IX, 'Blocked Funds'.

With respect to 23 C/DR.129 submitted by France

The working group noted the draft resolution with the following amendments to the operative paragraphs:

Paragraph 03002

(a) Insert after the new paragraph 4 proposed by 23 C/DR.268, another new paragraph 5 as follows:

'Endorsing all the relevant recommendations made by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6 and Add. concerning Major Programme III.'

(b) Modify paragraph 7 (new 9) to read:

'Authorizes the Director-General to continue on this basis the implementation ...' (rest unchanged); and in accordance with paragraph 64 of 121 EX/Decision 4.1 of the Executive Board, to retain in Part II.A the activities of the work plan proposed with two asterisks (first priority) in the draft 23 C/5 document and to place in reserve in Part IX the activities proposed with a single asterisk (second priority), with the exception of the following activities:

document with two asterisks which must nevertheless be placed in reserve in Part IX: 03214 (f); 03348 (a); 03348 (d); 03348 (g). The working group noted that the delegation of France accepts that the activities **03348 (d) and **03348 (g) remain with two asterisks and that they should be financed by the reserve for draft resolutions if the Commission adopts the recommendations of the working group concerning DR.42 which has budgetary implications, activities proposed in the draft 23 C/5 document with a single asterisk which must nevertheless be retained in Part II.A: 03108 (a) 03108 (b); 03109 (a); 03215 (a); 03308 (b); 03308 (d); 03308 (f); 03315 (e); 03323 (a); 03323 (b); 03323 (d); 03341 (a); 03341 (b); 03341 (c).

The working group also noted that 23 C/DR.129 could be modified by consensus reached in Commission IV, concerning Major Programme III.

With respect to 23 C/DR.147 submitted by Hungary

The working group noted that 23 C/DR.147 was withdrawn by the representative of Group II. The delegation of Hungary was consulted and agreed.

With respect to 23 C/DR.148 and 148 (Rev.) submitted by Hungary and 23 C/DR.238 and 238 Corr. submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The working group noted that all items of 23 C/DR.148 and 148 Rev. and 23 C/DR.238 and 238 Corr. had been withdrawn and recommended the Commission to amend paragraph **03105 (1) (a) and paragraph **03105 (1) (b) of 23 C/5 Draft

Programme and Budget as follows:

Paragraph **03105 (1) (a)

'Intellectual and financial contribution to carrying out 30 comparative studies on the socio-cultural impact of new communication technologies, taking note of problems involving copyright and other questions of an economic or legal nature which may be relevant to Unesco's work within its areas of competence, in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Europe, in Africa, in the Arab States, in Asia and the Pacific - in conjunction with Major Programme I and Subprogrammes II.3.3; II.5.3; V.1.2; V.2.2; VI.3.1; VII.2.1; VIII.1.2; IX.1.1; XI.4.1; (cf. 22 C/4 Approved, paragraphs 03110-03111) and under the heading of Copyright II.B, Chapter 1. \$96,000'.

Paragraph **03105 (1) (b)

'Collection, collation and half-yearly distribution of basic documentation and also of the conclusions of the research carried out in all the regions of the world on the socio-cultural impact of new communication technologies, taking particular note of the problems involving copyright and other questions of an economic or legal nature which may be relevant to Unesco's work within its areas of competence - in conjunction with the activities carried out under the heading of Copyright, II.B, Chapter 1. \$20,600'

The delegation of Hungary was consulted and agreed with the amendments proposed.

The working group noted that the amounts proposed in 23 C/5 remained unchanged and no budgetary implications resulted from approval of the above amended texts by the Commission.

With respect to 23 C/DR.149 submitted by Hungary

The working group noted that the text should be amended as follows:

Paragraph **03205 (1) (a); paragraph **03206 (2) (a) paragraph **03208 (4) (b)

Instead of '... organizations of broadcasters, publishers and journalists ...' (paragraphs **03205 and **03208) and '... professional organizations of broadcasters, publishers, editors and journalists ...' (paragraph **03206) use the following words '... organizations of broadcasters, publishers, editors, journalists and others professionally involved in communication ...'.

The delegation of Hungary was consulted and agreed with the amendment proposed.

With respect to 23 C/DR.216 submitted by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

The working group noted that all items of DR.216 had been withdrawn and proposed to the Commission that it amend paragraph 03213 'expected results' in the second sentence with a consensus text as follows:

'Better understanding of the contribution that the media can make to promoting

international understanding, co-operation and peace by informing public opinion of issues in the field of disarmament and human rights as well as such questions as apartheid, poverty, disease, famine, drought, ecological hazards, and the problems of refugees and immigrants, and also about actions that might lead to the abuse of power.'

and that it amend paragraph **03214 (1) (a) of the Draft Programme and Budget (23 C/5) as follows:

'Production of a prototype of audio-visual aids in English, French and Spanish on the 1978 Declaration on the Media. \$13,000'.

The reduction of \$10,000 resulting from the above amendment in paragraph 03214(1) (a) is to cover the insertion of new paragraph 03214 (1) (h) following decision on 23 C/DR.6.

With respect to 23 C/DR.268 submitted by the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany

The working group noted that resolution 3.1 should be amended as follows:

'(a) Insert between paragraphs 3 and 4 of the draft programme and budget a new preambular paragraph (4) which would read:

"Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in particular Article 19 as well as Articles 19 and 20 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which express the principles which should underlie the activities undertaken in Major Programme III";

(b) In paragraph 6, line 3, replace "the function of communication" by "the place of communication";

(c) In paragraph 8(a)(ii), after "a new world information and communication order", insert "seen as an evolving and continuous process";

(d) In paragraph 8 (b)(ii), replace "the implementation" by "the effect";

(e) In paragraph 8(b)(iii), line 1, replace "secure the" by "encourage a";

(f) Add to the end of paragraph 8(c)(v): "and in particular to develop a critical public awareness of the mass communication media".

The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany was consulted and agreed to this proposed amendment.

With respect to 23 C/COM.IV/DR.2 submitted by the German Democratic Republic; 23 C/DR.95 (as regards paragraph **03106(2)(a) submitted by Poland; 23 C/DR.232 submitted by the Federal

Republic of Germany and Switzerland; and 23 C/244 submitted by the United Kingdom

The working group noted that all items of the draft resolutions 23 C/COM.IV/DR.2, 23 C/DR.232 and 23 C/DR.244 had been withdrawn, as well as the item related to paragraph **03106(2)(a) of 23 C/DR.95 and the following consensus text was submitted for approval to the Commission to amend the work plan of the Draft Programme and Budget (23 C/5):

Paragraph 03104 (expected results) third sentence to read:

'Elucidation of some of the essential components of the "right to communicate", taking into account the technological environment and the rights and fundamental freedoms in universally recognized instruments'.

Paragraph **03106(2)(a)

'Production of two studies on the concept of the "right to communicate", taking into account the rights and fundamental freedoms in universally recognized instruments, in association with the International Institute of Communications, the International Commission of Jurists, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers and the International Law Association - in conjunction with Major Programme XIII (cf. 22 C/5 Approved, para. 03116). \$7,500'

The working group noted that no budgetary implications would derive from these changes.

The delegation of Switzerland was consulted and agreed to the withdrawal of 23 C/DR.244 and the consensus reached.

With respect to 23 C/DR.143 submitted by the United Kingdom

The working group noted that the United Kingdom delegation had withdrawn the following proposals made in 23 C/DR.143:

(a) upgrading of paragraph *03207(a);

(b) downgrading of paragraph **03214(a) (on which a consensus was reached during discussion of 23 C/DR.216).

The working group, after discussing the contents of DR.143, was unable to come to any other agreement except to propose that it should be discussed by Commission IV, with the possibility of its being submitted to the joint meeting of chairmen of the programme commissions.

The budgetary implications of the withdrawals proposed by the United Kingdom need to be taken into consideration within the framework of the total budgetary allocation of the reserve for draft resolutions concerning Major Programme III.

E. Report of Commission V

Introduction

- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 18 - Major Programme XII: The elimination of prejudice, intolerance, racism and apartheid
- Examination of item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 19 - Major Programme XIII: Peace, international understanding, human rights and the rights of peoples
- Examination of item 5.4 - Evaluation of the procedures adopted by the Executive Board for the examination of communications concerning alleged violations of human rights falling within Unesco's fields of competence
- Examination of item 4.8 - Unesco's role in improving the situation of young people, and its contribution to International Youth Year
- Examination of item 4.9 - Implementation of 22 C/Resolution 23, concerning education and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories
- Examination of item 4.15 - The continued Iranian aggression against the educational, cultural and scientific institutions and the cultural heritage of the Republic of Iraq
- and of item 4.16 - Continuing violence against the educational and scientific institutions, the human environment and the historic and cultural sites and monuments of Iran
- Annex I - Communications of the Chairman of Commission V on item 3.5 - Discussion Unit 19

INTRODUCTION

Election of the Bureau

(1) At its first meeting on 9 October 1985, the Commission elected Mr Iba Der Thiam as its Chairman by acclamation.

(2) At its second meeting, on 23 October 1985, the Commission also elected by acclamation and on the proposal of the chairman of the Nominations Committee the following four Vice-Chairmen: Mr Abdulla Keshtmand (Afghanistan), Mr Victor Sergeyvich Kolbasine (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic), Mr Beshir Haj el Tom (Sudan) and Mrs Adela Reta (Uruguay). Mr Per Fischer (Denmark) was elected Rapporteur by acclamation.

Opening of the proceedings

(3) After the constitution of the Bureau, the Chairman reminded delegates of the terms of reference given to Commission V by the General Conference under item 3.5 of the agenda, namely, consideration of Major Programmes XII and XIII of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (23 C/5) divided into two discussion units, 18 and 19, as well as items 5.4, 4.8, 4.9, 4.15 and 4.16 of the agenda. He said that when considering Major Programmes XII and XIII of document 23 C/5, the Commission should always keep in mind a number of basic documents: 4 XC/4, 23 C/3, 23 C/6 and Add., 23 C/7, 23 C/8, 23 C/9, 23 C/11, 23 C/17 and Add., 23 C/INF.10, 23 C/INF.11 and 23 C/INF.19 (prov.).

(4) In addition, a series of other reference documents should be taken into account during the debate on each discussion unit or agenda item. Some of these included a draft resolution proposed by the Director-General which called for a decision by the Commission.

(5) The Chairman then submitted to the Commission for approval the timetable of work as set out in document 23 C/COM.V/1. The timetable was adopted by the Commission.

(6) Having himself made a preliminary study of the draft resolutions which had been received by the Director-General and which referred to the various major programmes of document 23 C/5, the Chairman proposed that the Commission deal with them according to the following procedure:

(a) some of them might be withdrawn by their sponsors if they accepted the explanations of the Director-General;

(b) a large number of the draft resolutions had no budgetary implications, nor did they entail any amendments to the resolutions proposed by the Director-General, and most of them concerned the work plan. The Commission could accordingly, if it felt this would be appropriate, recommend that the General Conference take note of them and invite the Director-General to take

them into account, as far as possible, in the preparation of document 23 C/5 Approved and in the implementation of the approved programme;

(c) the draft resolutions that were of an autonomous nature or which amended resolutions proposed by the Director-General in document 23 C/5 should then be dealt with, with a view to formal recommendation or otherwise of their adoption by the General Conference;

(d) that would leave draft resolutions which had budgetary implications; those that the Commission felt should be adopted would be taken up after discussion of all the units, when the sum that might be allocated to each in terms of the total amount granted to the Commission could be determined.

(7) The Chairman mentioned in that connection that, in the light of the preliminary examination by the group of five Programme Commission Chairmen, the General Committee, when studying the procedures for considering document 23 C/DR.143, had recommended that the Commissions should be guided by principles formulated as follows by the conference of Chairmen of the Programme Commissions:

'The proposals contained in document 23 C/DR.143 must be examined not in isolation but in the general framework of the recommendations made by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6 and 23 C/6 Add., recommendations which emerged from a consensus which had been laboriously obtained and which everyone states they wish to reaffirm at the present session of the General Conference.'

'This principle having been reaffirmed, each Member State is nevertheless entitled to introduce proposals concerning questions which are not covered by this consensus. In fact, the said consensus achieved in the Executive Board and then endorsed by the General Conference can be enlarged at any moment, provided only that the proposals for such enlargement meet with the concurrence of all the delegations.'

'In other words, if a Member State makes a proposal for enlargement of the consensus, which is not acceptable to the majority of Member States, that State would be morally obliged to withdraw it.'

'If on the other hand the proposal meets with no opposition, the parties concerned may regard it as acceptable...'

(8) The Commission expressed its agreement with the procedure outlined by the Chairman, who then made a number of observations before closing the second meeting. He said that he was resolved to be impartial, fair and open-minded in his conduct of the Commission's debates, allowing all shades of opinion free expression. He was convinced that all the delegations present in the

Commission were aware of the crucial importance of the work they had before them in circumstances that were exceptional in Unesco's history and in view of the complexity of the issues to be debated. He was sure that the Commission would carry out its task in a spirit of co-operation, tolerance, open-mindedness and conciliation, with the constant desire to base every decision, as far as possible, on consensus.

(9) The report deals with discussion unit 18, relating to Major

Programme XII (The elimination of prejudice, intolerance, racism and apartheid), discussion unit 19, relating to Major Programme XIII (Peace, international understanding, human rights and the rights of peoples) and items 5.4, 4.8, 4.9, 4.15 and 4.16 of the agenda.

(10) The Commission devoted 14 meetings to consideration of these various agenda items. It devoted its sixteenth meeting to the adoption of its report.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 18 - MAJOR PROGRAMME XII:
THE ELIMINATION OF PREJUDICE, INTOLERANCE, RACISM AND APARTHEID

A. Presentation of discussion unit 18

(11) Commission V devoted its second, third and fourth meetings to the examination of discussion unit 18 - Major Programme XII: The elimination of prejudice, intolerance, racism and apartheid.

(12) The Chairman opened the debate by stressing that the value of the major programme lay in the fact that it expanded a series of activities which had always been carried out by the Organization, in view of the fact that they formed part of the main focus of its Constitution. The purpose of the major programme was to develop both research and action in this field in order to improve the efficiency of activities undertaken to combat the scourges of racism and intolerance, including apartheid, a subject of burning topicality, which was one of the most painful problems facing the whole of humankind.

(13) The Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences presented the draft of Major Programme XII. He recalled that the structure and the content of this major programme were derived from the orientations defined in the second Medium-Term Plan, the suggestions in the replies of Member States to the consultation on the Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 as well as the recommendations formulated by the Executive Board at its 120th session. Certain changes had been introduced in the structure and orientation of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 as compared with the Programme and Budget of 1984-1985.

(14) These changes could be classified under three headings. The first concerned regroupments or transfers of subprogrammes or programme actions. The second concerned the classification of activities in first or second priority. The third concerned the particular orientation of different programmes and subprogrammes.

(15) In conformity with the recommendations of the Executive Board at its 120th session, former Subprogrammes XII.1.1 (Study of the theoretical and

ideological basis of prejudice and racism) and former XII.1.3 (Research on policies, institutions and practices conducive to intolerance and racism) were now grouped together in a Subprogramme XII.1.3 (Study of the theoretical and ideological bases of prejudice, intolerance and racism and research on policies, institutions and practices conducive to intolerance and racism). This assured the unity of the theoretical studies and applied research formerly carried out under two different subprogrammes.

(16) The Assistant Director-General also stated that in order to reinforce the coherence and efficacy of the action which should be taken against prejudices, intolerance and racism the four former Subprogrammes of XII.2 had been brought together in a single subprogramme entitled: 'Action against prejudice, intolerance and racism in the fields of education, culture and communication'. The result of these regroupments was a better integration between studies on the theoretical and ideological foundations of discrimination, on the one hand, and research on the policies of institutions and practices favourable to intolerance and to racism, on the other. In addition, the merger led to a greater concentration both of programmes and of resources.

(17) The Assistant Director-General, referring to the recommendations of the Executive Board at its 120th session, indicated that former Subprogramme VI.5.4 (Interdisciplinary co-operation for the study of mankind) had been transferred to Major Programme XII, thus becoming the new Subprogramme XII.1.1.

(18) In conformity with the decisions of the Executive Board at its 120th session, the actions proposed in Major Programme XII, which had already included activities concerning ethnic, cultural, and linguistic discrimination, were now enlarged in order to cover all forms of discrimination. However, it should be noted that the Executive Board at its 121st session, while welcoming this widening of the scope of activities

Programme Commissions

provided, had nevertheless decided that the issue of discrimination based on sex would be maintained in Major Programme XIII. The result of the decisions of the Executive Board with regard to the scope of the programme was that the analysis of the phenomena of discrimination, the study of structures and of mechanisms of exclusion, as well as the analysis of prejudices, received a higher priority while at the same time priority was given to reflection on the unity of mankind. It was to be noted that a central place was given to the struggle against apartheid, dealt with in Subprogramme XII.3, all of whose activities had been given first priority.

(19) The Assistant Director-General underlined that co-operation with other Specialized Agencies, commissions and institutions of the United Nations would be continued and reinforced. He drew attention to intersectoral collaboration, particularly in ensuring that the applied social and human sciences were utilized with regard to certain educational policies. Another important feature of the draft programme was the use of available resources as seed money for research projects to be undertaken by scientific non-governmental organizations as well as by national research institutions.

(20) The assistant Director-General then explained certain specific orientations of the different programmes and subprogrammes of Major Programme XII.

B. General debate

(21) During the debate which followed, the delegates of 56 Member States and the representatives of one inter-governmental and two non-governmental organizations took the floor.

(22) The discussion revealed a wide consensus of approval of the proposed major programme. The majority of speakers expressed their support for its objectives and for the activities proposed for achieving them. Several delegates considered this major programme to be of fundamental importance to Unesco and some speakers spoke of the close links between Major Programme XII and Major Programme XIII (Peace, international understanding, human rights and rights of peoples).

(23) Certain delegates stated that the draft followed in general the lines laid down by the second Medium-Term Plan; others stated, however, that the draft had moved this major programme away from the Medium-Term Plan and that efforts should be made to correct this in the future. In a spirit of unity, however, these delegates accepted the consensus reached during the 121st session of the Executive Board.

(24) Several speakers noted with satisfaction the concentration achieved by the Secretariat in the presentation of Major Programme XII. Others, however, while welcoming this effort, felt that

concentration had still not gone far enough.

(25) Many speakers welcomed the broadening of the scope of Major Programme XII in order to include activities with respect to all forms of discrimination. One delegate stated that all discrimination was the denial of basic equality and human dignity. Some other speakers observed that exclusion from full social participation structures of discrimination and prejudices were widespread and not confined to any one region.

(26) One speaker suggested that the expression 'all forms of discrimination' should include the question of the handicapped. A representative of a non-governmental organization regretted that discrimination based on sex had not been included in this major programme.

(27) Some speakers, while admitting the widespread nature of discrimination, felt that certain priorities had to be established. It would be impossible for Unesco to do everything in this area. Moreover, certain types of discrimination were a greater threat to peace than others. This was true particularly of racism. It was also underlined by several speakers that racism continued to exist and in some cases was reappearing after a period during which it had been optimistically thought that it was at last disappearing.

(28) One speaker stated that Unesco could not remain indifferent with respect to the growing progress of certain racist parties whose policies were endorsed and tolerated by some. The need was also mentioned for historical studies on the rise of colonialism and Nazism.

(29) Most delegates welcomed the balance achieved between reflection and action and between research and action-oriented projects. Some others, however, would have preferred to see more work of a theoretical and research nature. This was needed if the causes of intolerance, prejudice and racism were to be properly analysed and understood. It was also needed in order to inform policy-makers and decision-makers.

(30) One speaker indicated that theoretical work and research were particularly important at a time when outside Unesco there was insufficient funding for projects on discrimination as well as a lack of researchers working on the subject.

(31) For some other speakers, however, Major Programme XII was still not sufficiently based on action. These speakers would have preferred to see intellectual activities either reduced or more clearly formulated to take into account the need for rapid action. For one speaker, resources should be focused on practical measures and not spread thinly over many projects; another said that work already done in the field of discrimination, should be made available.

(32) A number of delegates welcomed

Programme XII.1 (Studies and research on prejudice, intolerance and racism), which they felt to be in line with the intellectual mandate of Unesco and also to provide the foundations for future action.

(33) For some others, however, Programme XII.1 did not have a sufficiently high priority. One delegate underlined the intellectual difficulties inherent in the implementation of what he felt was a vast undertaking.

(34) Several delegates stated that interdisciplinary co-operation for the study of mankind (Subprogramme XII.1.1) was fundamental to the whole programme. It was particularly the oneness of humanity that made discrimination abhorrent. Some speakers pointed out that this subprogramme, formerly in Major Programme VI, fitted more clearly into Major Programme XII. Several speakers stressed the importance of studies of the problem of the unity of man in different philosophical and religious traditions (Subprogramme XII.1.1).

(35) Some delegates referred particularly to Subprogramme XII.1.2 (Concepts and patterns for the socio-political study of intolerance and racism). Speakers stressed the importance of several disciplines, including history, sociology, psychology and law, for the analysis of intolerance, prejudice and discrimination. Two delegates however, expressed some regrets that messianic movements and discrimination had not been given first priority, for the study of messianic movements is particularly important for certain parts of Africa.

(36) With regard to Subprogramme XII.1.3 (Study of the theoretical and ideological bases of prejudice, intolerance and racism and research on policies, institutions and practices conducive to intolerance and racism), some delegates gave this a high priority. Particular reference was made to the question of work on immigrants in certain countries and the necessity to ensure that continuing research as well as practical action was taken in order to ensure equality of opportunity for these groups.

(37) Some delegates referred to the need to ensure that within multilingual, multi-confessional and multi-cultural nations - also included in Subprogramme XII.1.3 - there was neither domination nor discrimination. One speaker indicated the need to ensure that this project covered as wide a number of regions as possible.

(38) Programme XII.2 (Action against prejudice, intolerance and racism in the fields of education, science, culture and communication) received widespread support. One speaker, however, wondered to what extent there was overlapping between Unesco's activities and those of other agencies or institutions in the United Nations system. Some delegates expressed the wish for

greater collaboration with non-governmental organizations, since these were often in the forefront of the struggle.

(39) One delegate expressed the opinion that the Unesco Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice (1978) should be turned into a Convention on Race and Racial Prejudice.

(40) The need for educational action in the struggle against the persistence of prejudice, intolerance and racism received broad support. Some speakers referred to the need to combine education with the use of the mass media. With reference to paragraph 12207(b), other speakers felt that the mere exchange of textbooks was unlikely to achieve the desired results.

(41) With regard to Programme XII.3 (The struggle against apartheid), the majority of delegates gave full support to the programme as presented. It was pointed out unanimously that apartheid was unacceptable to the international community. Within the context of international condemnation of apartheid, three delegates mentioned the announcement of measures taken at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in the Bahamas. The events of the last few months were widely quoted.

(42) For some delegates, however, Programme XII.3 was focused too much on past history. One delegate stated that the historical work proposed had already been done. He asked that it be noted that his country would like details of studies completed, a list of those financed, but not completed, and a representative selection of completed studies. He also found that the proposed five-year research plan on apartheid contrasted with the need to eliminate it in a much shorter period. He could, however, accept the Executive Board's consensus. Three other speakers supported specifically the projects on the history of southern Africa. Many delegates pointed out that what was necessary was the mobilization of public opinion in the light of present events.

(43) For one speaker, assistance to national liberation movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) did not come under the mandate of Unesco. Another delegate, while disapproving in principle support to organizations which in his opinion advocate violence, nevertheless approved the programme activities proposed which, he thought, were directly relevant to the real and long-term interests of the people of South Africa and Namibia. For the majority of speakers however, assistance to national liberation movements recognized by the OAU was important, particularly since many young people had fled South Africa after the Soweto riots and had arrived as refugees in neighbouring countries.

(44) A number of speakers stated that South Africa pursued expansionist goals outside its frontiers. These

Programme Commissions

expansionist goals were accompanied by political subversion, the sabotage of key industries and in some cases full-scale armed invasion. Apartheid thus threatened peace in southern Africa. One speaker insisted on the importance of assistance to Front Line States in order to strengthen co-operation between them within the fields of competence of Unesco and thus enable them to reduce their dependency on the apartheid regime of South Africa.

(45) In connection with the issues of intolerance, racism and apartheid, within the fields of competence of Unesco, several delegates and one representative of an intergovernmental organization expressed their preoccupation concerning the situation of the Palestinian and Arab peoples in the occupied territories. They stated that these peoples were suffering from a system of racial discrimination similar to that of apartheid. They argued that these people, apart from being denied of their legitimate and inalienable rights, were threatened by systematic policies attempting to undermine their ethnic, linguistic and cultural identity. Those delegates stated that apartheid and Zionism had the same logic, the same structure and the same methods. Consequently, they proposed that specific programmes of action be undertaken against both Zionism and apartheid in future C/5 documents.

(46) One speaker pointed out that the proposed activities did not mention Zionism as a form of racism. He recalled Resolution No. 3379/3 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations which qualified Zionism as a form of racism.

C. Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(47) In his reply the Assistant Director-General thanked delegates for their comments and questions in what had been a rich debate. Dating back to 1950, this programme was not only in conformity with the task of Unesco as laid down in its Constitution, it was also one of the oldest social science projects. He pointed out that, because of the centrality to the social sciences of patterns of discrimination, Unesco had a very specific role to play within the United Nations system.

(48) The Assistant Director-General agreed that there was a sense of urgency given the widespread nature of discrimination in all its forms and the resurgence of racism. Ethnic conflicts could indeed easily explode or be reactivated. This major programme did attempt to ensure continuing reflection and theoretical work while, at the same time, providing for action firmly based on knowledge emerging from research.

(49) The Assistant Director-General also indicated that the question of

discrimination against the handicapped was studied under Major Programme XIII and that this programme was closely coordinated with Major Programme XII.

(50) In relation to the use of education, it was pointed out that Major Programme XII should be taken together with Programme II.6 (Promotion of the right to education of particular groups which include disabled persons, refugees, liberation movements and migrant workers); as well as projects under Programme IV.2. It was also under Programme II.6 that work on the question of educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories was concentrated.

(51) The Assistant Director-General indicated that the Secretariat was aware of the disastrous effects of apartheid within South Africa and beyond its border in the Front Line States. Because of this, some projects under Programme XII.2 concerned the entire southern subregion.

(52) With regard to the question of the 1978 Unesco Declaration on Race and Racial Prejudice being turned into a Convention, the Assistant Director-General indicated that this matter would have to be considered by the General Conference. However, reporting is already required under the terms of the present Declaration. It does therefore have some normative value already.

D. Recommendations pertaining to discussion unit 18

(53) The Chairman invited the Commission to proceed to study the draft resolutions on unit 18.

(54) The following two draft resolutions were withdrawn by their authors: 23 C/DR.1 presented by Nigeria; 23 C/DR.264 presented by the German Democratic Republic.

(55) The Commission then recommended by consensus that the General Conference adopt three amendments to resolution 12.1 proposed under paragraph 12002 of document 23 C/5, as follows:

a new third preambular paragraph, as contained in 23 C/DR.202, submitted by the German Democratic Republic. One speaker explained that he had not opposed this amendment because the words 'and all other forms of totalitarian ideologies and practices' were included in this paragraph;

a new fifth preambular paragraph as stated under paragraph (a) of 23 C/DR.137 submitted by France; the insertion of the words 'bearing in mind the entire preamble of 23 C/DR.137' as proposed by the Chairman of the Commission, in the first operative paragraph of resolution 12.1.

(56) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of resolution 12.1 proposed by the Director-General as amended by 23 C/DR.202 submitted by the

German Democratic Republic and 23 C/DR.137 submitted by France (23 C/Resolution 12.1).

(57) The Commission then recommended by consensus to the General Conference to upgrade to first priority the activity foreseen in paragraph 12107(a) of the work plan, a proposal contained in document 23 C/DR.50 submitted by Nigeria. The Chairman recalled that this upgrading had already been recommended by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6, paragraph 151. After some discussion, the delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran withdrew a proposal he had made from the floor that paragraphs 12107(b) and (c) also be upgraded to first priority but which was not in conformity with the Rules of Procedure.

(58) Draft resolution 23 C/DR.78 Rev. submitted by Czechoslovakia was not examined by the Commission, which decided to resume its study at the end of its work since it had budgetary implications.

(59) The Commission recommended that

the General Conference take note of the work plan for Major Programme XII set out in paragraphs 12101 to 12402 of document 23 C/5.

(60) Having taken note of the budget for Programmes XII.1, XII.2, XII.3 and the participation programme, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme XII, under the regular programme (paragraph 12001 of document 23 C/5), the budget provision of \$2,007,900 after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$557,600 for the second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the reserve for draft resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 19 - MAJOR PROGRAMME XIII:
PEACE, INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING, HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLES

A. Presentation of discussion unit 19

(61) The Commission devoted its fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and fifteenth meetings to the discussion of discussion unit 19. Sixty-six speakers took the floor during the debate.

(62) In his opening statement, the Chairman declared that the importance of Major Programme XIII could hardly be overstated; it lay at the heart of the activities of the Organization. He quoted Article I of the Constitution of Unesco adding that today's generation must see to it that future generations inherit a world of peace and justice. The Chairman quoted also from the French philosopher Jacques Maritain, one of the founders of Unesco, the statement that each person must understand all others for the common good of all. One of the tasks of Unesco, indicated the Chairman, was to make States aware of the necessity for greater solidarity and for world peace. The subjects to be treated were of extreme importance at this particular juncture. It was therefore hoped that differing views could be openly discussed in an atmosphere of tolerance.

(63) The Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences then presented those parts of Major Programme XIII which concerned the Sector of Social and Human Sciences. He underlined that Major Programme XIII was in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Conference and the decisions of the Executive Board, in particular decision 4.1 adopted at the 120th session. At its 122nd session, the Board had also recommended that paragraphs 13109 and 13423 be transferred to first

priority and paragraphs 13107(b) and 13206 be transferred to second priority.

(64) The proposed activities under Major Programme XIII also took into account the recommendations of the Panel of Counsellors which, at the initiative of the Director-General, had met at Headquarters from 15 to 18 January 1985, in accordance with the suggestions of the Executive Board.

(65) The Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences underlined that, throughout Major Programme XIII, close co-ordination was foreseen between Unesco and other organizations of the United Nations system in order to ensure efficacy and to avoid overlapping. Because of this, the programme proposals included a number of surveys of work done by other organizations of the United Nations system. He also underlined the importance given to intersectoral co-operation, particularly between the Sectors of Education and of the Social and Human Sciences.

(66) Activities in Major Programme XIII also foresaw interdisciplinarity since questions of peace, international understanding, respect for human rights and the elimination of discrimination based on sex were at the intersection of various disciplines in the social sciences and implied work in such diverse fields as law, political science, anthropology, history and sociology.

(67) As to modalities of action, three principles should be noted. Firstly the programmes proposed accorded an increased attention to training particularly in giving direct support - intellectual or financial - to national and regional institutions as well as to

Programme Commissions

international non-governmental organizations. Secondly, accent was placed on exchanges of experience and of information between social scientists coming from industrialized countries and those coming from developing countries. Thirdly, the activities proposed included advisory services to Member States who requested them.

(68) The Assistant Director-General then went on to present the different programmes and Subprogrammes XIII.1, XIII.2 and XIII.4, which were those which came under the Sector of Social and Human Sciences, as well as, under XIII.3, the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching (Education Sector).

B. General debate

(69) The majority of speakers agreed that Major Programme XIII was an important programme. Two speakers referred to the importance of the programme as reflected in the Medium-Term Plan. One delegate spoke of the importance of this major programme for the Third World, while another stated that the imperative need felt by all the peoples of the world to improve the international situation and to avert the threat of war and nuclear catastrophe lends special importance to this programme. For another speaker, Major Programme XIII was the most important of the major programmes, since if there was no peace, there could be no education, no science, no culture. For one speaker, it was sufficient to evoke the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of Unesco in order to understand that the questions discussed in this major programme were at the very heart of the action assigned to it within the United Nations system. Some speakers, however, indicated that Major Programme XIII was one of the most sensitive programmes to be discussed, if not the most sensitive. One delegate regretted that the debate indicated divisions arising from ideological positions and added that as long as peace and human rights are seen as imposing ideological values, conflict was inevitable. It was therefore the plurality of views which was necessary in any democracy. For another delegate, the multiplicity of questions treated under this major programme made their study difficult and exigent, these questions having of their nature more political implications than other parts of the programme. This programme therefore remained at the centre of the controversy around the Organization.

(70) Another speaker, introducing an amendment aimed at reformulating the whole of Major Programme XIII, pointed out that, because that major programme was important an effort should be made to preserve it and try together to orient it in the direction that would unite all. A number of countries

referred to the Constitution of Unesco as setting out the mandate of the Organization with regard to the issue of peace and of human rights.

(71) For one delegate, the values which presided over the founding of Unesco 40 years ago were strictly democratic values. Democracy presupposes plurality, contrasts, understanding and tolerance. Unesco would only be relevant as a forum for reflection and action on major international issues as long as it set aside normative tendencies and tried instead to bring Member States together, not by coercion or imposition, but by the free exchange of ideas, experience, arguments and examples. For this delegate, Unesco was conceived as an organization with a universal vocation designed to reflect a pluralistic world. It should be capable of encompassing all social, political and mutual understanding, stress the elements that unite, with a view to gradually expanding them through constant debate. In keeping with such views, his country would certainly oppose any tendency to diminish Unesco's scope and political value. They would not thus be in a position to support any proposal aiming at radically altering the fundamental tenets of Major Programme XIII. They were however prepared to participate in a spirit of compromise and flexibility in all negotiations that could build a programme capable of generating the broadest possible support.

(72) A number of speakers therefore recalled the necessity to reach a consensus on this programme. One delegate thought it would not be prudent to reopen the debate and to put into question the consensus already found in the Executive Board and embodied in document 23 C/6 and its Addendum.

(73) While all speakers agreed that Unesco should work within the terms set down by the Constitution, within its mandate and within the fields of competence of the Organization, there were differing interpretations of the implications of these for the drafting of programme activities, particularly in the areas of disarmament and human rights. For several delegates, the Constitution of the Organization as well as discussions at the first session of the General Conference made it clear that Unesco should deal with problems of peace. For one delegate, the Organization merely does what it has to do under its Constitution and in a constructive manner in line with modern times. In addition one speaker underlined that there was a complementarity between this Major Programme XIII and Major Programme XII and that both flowed from the Organization's mandate.

(74) For some speakers, Unesco's work for peace should be confined to education, science, culture and information. One delegate thought that Unesco's fields of competence excluded work on disarmament. Another delegate

felt that the constitutional aims of peace should be realized broadly through all other programmes and that disarmament was essentially a political matter to be undertaken by the United Nations. Unesco should only take up such things as were both within its mandate and supported by its Member States. For another speaker the thinking which underlies the Organization's Constitution is clear. Peace must be founded upon international understanding. This, in turn, stems from increased opportunities for education, the unrestricted pursuit of objective truth, and the free exchange of ideas and knowledge.

(75) For one delegate, two interpretations could be made of the words of the founding fathers of Unesco. According to some, intellectual co-operation would, by itself, lead to greater justice and peace. According to others, education, science, culture should be used directly to promote peace and respect for human rights. To eliminate one or the other of the two concepts would be to lose or neglect certain essential aspects of the task of Unesco.

(76) One major issue was that of 'overlapping' with other organizations of the United Nations system. This question was often closely associated with that of co-ordination. For several delegates, Unesco must avoid duplication and promote co-ordination between the United Nations bodies concerned particularly in the field of disarmament. Reference was made to the recommendations of the 121st session of the Executive Board. For other speakers, however, there was no question of duplication. One delegate stated that, as Unesco proposes to work in collaboration with all concerned, the question of duplication should not normally arise. In fact, there was the impression that the issue of duplication was being raised to wish away some of the activities which Unesco should legitimately undertake. For another speaker, the argument of duplication was the least convincing. It amounted to an interdiction to think. For another, the argument of duplication, when there were already not enough tribunes in which to speak of peace, was not only ill-founded but dangerous.

(77) For some countries, Major Programme XIII was fully in conformity with the Medium-Term Plan. One delegate noted that this major programme respected the decisions of the 120th session of the Executive Board without deviating from the second Medium-Term Plan. One delegate stated that it certainly respected the form and the orientations of the Medium-Term Plan. Some other delegates were less certain of this and considered the draft programme as not as ambitious as it should be. One other speaker thought that the work projected in the framework of the International Year

of Peace (1986) were particularly modest compared to the importance and aims of the programme. For this speaker the programme appeared revised compared to the second Medium-Term Plan. Unesco should concentrate on fundamental research without which activities could not succeed. One delegate found that certain projects on the arms race and the relationship between disarmament and development, foreseen in the second Medium-Term Plan, were not reflected in the draft programme and budget. Another stated that the draft did not contain any authentic action aimed at the maintenance of peace and the promotion of disarmament. The mention of the threat of nuclear war in the Medium-Term Plan was not reflected in document 23 C/5 Draft. For another speaker the number of draft resolutions indicated there was an attempt to put this programme in question. There were no new circumstances to warrant this. Most resources in any case went to activities concerning education, science and culture and very little to this important programme concerning peace and human rights issues. Within the new programme, there was a great imbalance illustrated by the budgetary appropriations. Programme XIII.1 received far less than Programme XIII.4. There was a reduction of 4 per cent in the budget of Programme XIII.1 compared to 2 per cent in Programme XIII.4. There was a consistent and unacceptable imbalance between the resources devoted to work on peace as compared to those devoted to the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching. For one delegate, document 23 C/5 Draft was a retreat from document 22 C/5. Another speaker calculated that when projects with a single asterisk (second priority) were totalled, Major Programme XIII was actually reduced by 18 per cent, which was serious in such an important programme. Document 23 C/5 Draft had too many mini-programmes with slight resources. It was necessary to reinstate former efforts by increasing the budget for Major Programme XIII. Two speakers, while not requesting an increased budget, nevertheless stated that they would resist any attempts to further reduce the budget or to change priority ratings.

(78) Another speaker however stated that he found it quite unacceptable that the resources of Major Programme XIII should be artificially insulated against the effects of the cuts which have had to be made in Unesco's activities. It was well known that the value of some activities are questioned in a number of Member States. The Secretariat's proposals were, according to the speaker, for a 17 per cent reduction as against an average reduction of 25 per cent, and as against an even higher reduction in the area of science, whose programmes were nevertheless valued and appreciated. For another country an even larger

Programme Commissions

proportion of resources should have been devoted to the promotion and protection of human rights.

(79) A number of speakers referred to the links between peace and human rights and sometimes peace, human rights, and the rights of peoples. For several delegates a lasting peace could only be based on respect for human rights and the establishment of an equitable international order. For another it was only in conditions of peace that it is possible to enjoy effectively human rights and fundamental freedoms. Still another speaker found that nowhere was independence more evident than in the relationship between peace and human rights. Peace in the broadest sense of the term was not only the absence of war, but an active peace of understanding and co-operation between peoples. This peace was the sine qua non for the life of peoples, of nations, of their well-being and of their development. For another speaker, Major Programme XIII should emphasize the links between peace, development and human rights. None should be discussed in isolation from the others. The speaker urged Unesco to promote and clarify this perspective and sharpen the relevant interdisciplinary methodology. For another delegate, peace was a positive state of harmony and contact between individuals, communities, peoples and nations. It had to be based on international understanding, justice and respect for human rights. There should be no artificial divide between, say, disarmament on the one hand and human rights on the other.

Programme XIII.1: Maintenance of peace and international understanding

(80) With regard to Programme XIII.1 (Maintenance of peace and international understanding), a number of delegates considered the programme of particular importance in view of the recent aggravation of the international political situation. They felt that Unesco must strive to contribute, within the scope of its mandate, towards easing global tensions and promoting greater understanding between the community of nations. Those delegates stated that Major Programme XIII and above all Sub-programme XIII.1 were a reflection par excellence of the objectives of Unesco. Founded immediately after the horrors of the war and Fascism, 40 years ago, Unesco was created to establish peace: Article I of the Constitution indeed states the purposes of Unesco, the maintenance of peace. For one speaker, international peace was indivisible, founded on the principle of friendly relations between peoples and States having different social and political systems and on respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. For one speaker, in the nuclear age, man has become the prisoner of his technical

capacities of destruction. The elusive dream of the ultimate weapon has brought the world to the brink of disaster. For another delegate, the projects to transfer war into space create a new mortal danger for peace and life on the earth. For another delegate, it was necessary, in the coming period, to accord particular priority to increasing the contribution of education, science, culture and information to safeguarding peace and the realization of disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, in order to strengthen co-operation and unity between all the peoples of the world.

(81) One delegate stressed the role of scientists in creating a public opinion favourable to peace, and proposed to organize a symposium on 'Scientists of the world for preservation of life on the Earth'. He proposed to involve more scientists, specialists in physics, medicine and environment in Unesco's activities to strengthen understanding. The data concerning the effects of nuclear warfare on human health and environment already studied are to be widely disseminated by Unesco in order to create public opinion favourable to peace. For another delegate different Member States have different policies and social systems but they have to find a common ground for their activities for strengthening peace in the framework of Unesco's mandate. The principles should be the basis of activities in Major Programme XIII.

(82) Some speakers deplored the diversion of a large proportion of scientific activity from solving some of man's major problems, such as those in the fields of education, science, culture, health or agricultural products. Those working in the fields of Unesco, regardless of their political, philosophical or religious convictions, should play a very important and vital role in compiling information about the destructive consequences of nuclear war and in promoting an effective process of disarmament. A delegate stated that the peace issue concerns both developing and developed countries. The arms race means an extension of inequality and an increase in the gap between developed and developing countries. The huge sums now allocated to the building of arms for massive destruction could instead be used to improve living conditions and for education, science, culture and communication.

(83) For another speaker there were two problems that Unesco should face up to. The first was the arms race which is the consequence of a mutual spiral of fear and insecurity arising from conflicts of interests. However, the spiral assumes a self-accentuating and self-perpetuating dynamic of its own, often divorced from the original conflict. The situation was made possible by the pervasive underlying false ethos of militarism. Unesco should help the understanding of the origin, characteristics

and dynamics of this ethos, the factors which sustain it and, from there, try to diminish and eventually eliminate it. In order to de-escalate the irrational armament spiral of both superpowers and the other competing powers, it was necessary to pursue vigorously the studies on disarmament. The second problem concerned the socio-economic and political contexts which engendered the arms race threatening the world as a whole. A focus on this dimension would reveal a link between peace, development and human rights.

(84) An African delegate stated that Africa needed a strong institutional base to follow priorities dictated by African perspectives on peace and human rights. This gap was being filled by the creation of the Pan-African Centre for Research on Peace, Development and Human Rights. One delegate, in welcoming Subprogramme XIII.1.2, stated that their experience in southern Africa clearly demonstrated that the apartheid regime there is dependent on the supply of arms - without the supply of sophisticated arms that regime would already have been toppled by the majority.

(85) A number of delegates were particularly critical with regard to projects on disarmament and peace. Several stressed the recommendation from the Executive Board to guard against duplication of efforts and to stay within the mandate of Unesco. One delegate wished to be assured that certain programmes were in fact complementary and not a duplication. The role of Unesco was educative as compared with the preventive and operational roles of the United Nations and should be exercised on terms of strict co-ordination between the Unesco Secretariat and other organizations of the United Nations system. Another speaker stated that the appropriate fora of the United Nations, including the First Committee of the General Assembly, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research and the Department of Disarmament Affairs, have the primary role in undertaking work in the field of disarmament. Unesco had its own role with regard to education, research and dissemination of information or when called on by the General Assembly to take action in some specific context, for example the World Disarmament Campaign.

(86) One delegate believed that Subprogramme XIII.1.2 on disarmament should be discontinued, since it did not fall clearly within Unesco's fields of competence. In any case he did not think this subprogramme should be pursued in isolation from the factors contributing to peace in Subprogramme XIII.1.1. He could, however, accept the Executive Board consensus, defining a certain role for Unesco in the field of disarmament, and supported draft resolution 23 C/DR.51 setting out in practice what the Board had agreed in principle. For

another delegate, Programme XIII.1 was among the most controversial of Unesco's programmes. For this reason, it was important to render this programme concrete and measurable. Notwithstanding the importance of encouraging reflection on the subject of peace and international understanding in the context of Unesco, actions should serve the interest of the entire international community.

(87) For one delegate, there were certain aims of policy which severely obfuscate the distinct limits of Unesco's competence. Among these aims were disarmament, the promotion of international peace and security or economic development. These policy aims were quite often derived from human rights doctrines such as the right to life or the right to employment. As crucially important as these policy aims were in themselves, they did not belong to Unesco's competence. There were other United Nations bodies that were better qualified than Unesco to deal with these issues. For one speaker, the project for 'The study of causes and consequences of the arms race and links between peace, security and disarmament' appeared to be abstract and its expected results very hard to achieve. Moreover, he doubted that true consensus could be achieved on this project. He wished therefore to see the resources better utilized for other concrete activities of benefit to Member States.

(88) Another speaker, while recognizing that the field of disarmament is a subject of widespread intellectual and academic inquiry and acknowledging that Unesco should promote contacts and exchanges in this field as in any other, was unhappy at the way that this topic has been separated from the other aspects of peace. Disarmament was far from the only means of achieving peace. Unesco was not and should not become a disarmament organization. Unesco's primary role was, for some delegates, to encourage exchanges of information among research institutions, to promote research and training capacities and to disseminate publications, particularly those publications produced within the United Nations system.

(89) Several delegates, while expressing satisfaction over the round table proposed as a contribution of Unesco to the International Year of Peace, nevertheless felt that more should be done by Unesco to celebrate this Year. One delegate expressed the readiness of his country to host the expert meeting provided for in document 23 C/5, paragraph 13108(b).

(90) Several delegates expressed their satisfaction with the projects in international law. One delegate expressed her wish to see the Association of African Universities associated with this programme. One delegate stated that he would like to see development in the field of constitutional comparative

law. Another delegate felt that international law should particularly be developed in the area of international humanitarian law. He stated that non-observance of and lack of sanctions and guarantees for international law, conventions and regulations constituted one of the main causes of the arms race. Unesco should, in order to further disarmament, promote respect for international law and peace. For one delegate, studies of international relations and other analogous activities were likely to strengthen international understanding. One delegate stressed that international conventions, humanitarian principles and international resolutions and decisions should not be separated, but taken as a whole.

Programme XIII.2: Respect for human rights

(91) Several delegations underlined the importance of this programme. One delegate stated that respect for human rights is of crucial importance for stability and conciliation within nations and for peaceful co-operation between nations. A most important task was for Unesco to disseminate information and promote teaching about internationally accepted human rights.

(92) Views on the relationship between individual human rights and rights of peoples were expressed throughout the debate on this programme. As pointed out by the Chairman in the summary he made before the establishment of the Commission's Working Group, the now-accepted concept of people's rights still poses epistemological problems which need to be elucidated scientifically by Unesco. There was wide agreement that Unesco did not have a normative role in this matter, and that the status of internationally accepted human rights must not be undermined.

(93) A number of speakers stated that respect for human rights and the rights of peoples were not mutually exclusive and were not in conflict. For one speaker, the aim of promoting respect for human rights and the rights of peoples were two important facets of a comprehensive approach that could contribute to universal peace and equality at both the individual and collective levels. It would accordingly be desirable to adopt a multidimensional approach in identifying the economic, social and cultural correlations between human rights and the rights of peoples.

(94) For one speaker, the task of Unesco was to contribute to the scientific classification of a concept that was so much discussed. There existed neither opposition nor tension between human rights and the rights of peoples. Human rights defined and regulated the position of man within the society or within the community to which he belonged. The rights of peoples regulated the position of the community

vis-à-vis other communities. These relations were neither essentially nor necessarily inter-State relations. The right of self-determination was certainly the most important of peoples' rights but it was in no way the only one. Human rights had only gradually and step by step been defined in juridical terms. The concept of peoples' rights might undergo a similar, gradual development.

(95) Another speaker stated that developing countries increasingly see the inextricable link between human rights and rights to development which have such themes as the new international economic order, the new information order, and the promotion of development. This was so, since developing countries saw their people exposed to the primary forms of human rights violations, for example, the violation of the right to food, to shelter, to work, dignity and life itself.

(96) One delegate stated that her delegation placed much importance on the rights of peoples. The rights of peoples to self-determination is mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948 and this was reaffirmed in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1960. This mention of collective rights is therefore of paramount importance to the young sovereign States that emerged after 1960 and those still fighting for self-determination.

(97) Another delegate stated that some rights such as those of self-determination or of control over national resources are universally accepted, while other rights are still the subject of debate. In the view of his delegation, the exercise of peoples' rights or the rights of collectivities, such as trade unions or professional organizations, is to protect and enhance the enjoyment of their rights by the individuals who compose them.

(98) Some speakers criticized the absence of reference to peoples' rights in the titles of the subprogrammes. One delegate stated that rights of peoples did exist and should be respected. The argument that these rights did not exist because they were not universally recognized was not convincing. After all, could it be said that, since the Universal Declaration of Human Rights did not exist until 1948, there were no human rights before this? In the Draft Programme and Budget there was only one vague study on rights of peoples for only \$42,000, while human rights were already the subject of many studies and were allocated about one million dollars. Peoples' rights complement human rights but cannot be reduced to human rights. This delegate therefore dissociated himself from the expression 'peoples rights qua human rights'.

(99) Another delegate similarly felt

that human rights should not take precedence over the rights of peoples. Human rights and peoples' rights co-exist. The conclusion that rights of peoples are not defined should stimulate and not curtail Unesco's activities. For another delegate, the rights of peoples were a necessary and sufficient precondition for the enjoyment of human rights. For yet another speaker, rights of peoples are valuable since they also protect individual rights. For this speaker, Unesco could contribute to reflection on human rights and in particular further clarification of rights of peoples qua human rights. One delegate insisted on the necessity of further profound studies of the philosophical foundations of human rights in different religions and cultural traditions of the world, existing Declarations and Covenants being inspired only by the Judeo-Christian and Masonic doctrines. He proposed to give the studies described under paragraph 13208 first priority.

(100) Some speakers did not agree with the project for a symposium on peoples' rights qua human rights as formulated by the panel of counsellors. The word qua was seen as unfortunate. For one speaker it was possible to proceed to a fairly simple modification which would consist of disassociating human rights and rights of peoples for the needs of research. The project as formulated in document 23 C/5 Draft, stated that the meeting foreseen would take into account certain regional instruments like, for example, the African Charter on Human Rights and Peoples' Rights. But, in fact, this juridical instrument carefully avoids proceeding to a ranking of human rights and peoples' rights, as the formula 'rights of peoples' qua human rights' could lead one to suppose. More than this, the African Charter opts for a single concept, a single category, because it does not separate the two notions. For the African Charter there only exist human rights and rights of peoples. This renders impossible all opposition or ranking between these. The African Charter was to some extent imperfect seen from the point of view of the means to identify peoples. It was nevertheless an important step in the creation of norms.

(101) One speaker felt that, on the question of rights of peoples, there are no agreed positions but only agreed standards. What constitutes a 'people' had to be thought out carefully; this could depend on the right in question. Peoples may be peoples for the purpose of one claim and not for another. In some contexts rights can spread to other groups. Some rights are exercised by peoples and some by individuals within the context of group rights. A distinction must be made as between rights of States and rights of peoples. There was room for the elaboration of peoples'

rights, but within the context of the Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Unesco's proper role was to stimulate debate on these issues. It was for Unesco to be at the cutting edges of the social sciences, as it was with the natural sciences. Standard-setting activity, however, should be left to the United Nations. The delegate stated that he wholeheartedly supported the symposium mentioned in the paragraph 13207 of document 23 C/5.

(102) Another speaker stated that questions may appropriately be raised as to whether we are dealing with rights or with aspirations. The question of rights itself may be the object of close scrutiny since it may have dissimilar connotations in different cultural and legal systems. He pointed out that many concepts, which are today accepted as a matter of course, were at one point in history the object of widespread controversy. Unesco should therefore proceed with caution. Nevertheless, one should not be afraid of pursuing this inquiry, since it may very well lead to relevant and fertile conclusions. It was in this context that he welcomed the initiative of convening a panel of experts to discuss questions of human rights and rights of peoples on a preliminary and general basis. Such an exercise should, at the present stage, be limited to the intellectual level.

(103) For one delegate, it was not for Unesco to establish a ranking which privileged one category of rights over another. Unesco however could not ignore the rights of peoples. Some such rights were recognized at the international level, particularly the right of peoples to self-determination. But there were other rights which were only at present recognized at a regional level. Their immediate promotion to the international level would run the risk of creating misunderstandings. But Unesco was, within its competence, well placed to study the evolution of ideas and assumptions, without having to pronounce on whether or not these rights should be universally accepted. It was in this spirit that the delegate welcomed the meeting on the understanding of the concept of rights of peoples. He also suggested that its final title should be left to the appreciation of the participants, rather than engaging the General Conference in a premature and vague discussion. The speaker went on to underline that his country wished to make it clear that the idea of rights of peoples was not the same as the rights of States. Many others agreed with this. One speaker, for example, stated that the rights and liberties of the individual, although it was situated within communities, could not be subjected to the power of States.

(104) Some speakers underlined the importance of the rights of peoples in the context of apartheid in South Africa and in Namibia. These delegates

underlined that there were neither individual rights nor peoples' rights for Africans under apartheid. Moreover one delegate underlined that, when a sovereign State suffered from aggression and foreign occupation of part of its territory, this was a violation of peoples' rights. For one speaker, people's rights could be called 'right of solidarity' and need not cause divisions. Above all they should not distract from the effective enjoyment of human rights.

(105) One delegate stated that his government was concerned about the new term 'the rights of peoples'. This concept was not as yet universally recognized. He wished in this context to emphasize that fundamental human rights should in no case be suppressed in the name of groups or of the State. For him the concept of the rights of peoples needed to be further elucidated to ensure that peoples' rights are consistent with Unesco's constitutional mandate and its fundamental role in promoting the dissemination of knowledge and the application of existing international human rights instruments.

(106) One delegate stated that human rights cannot and should not be viewed exclusively in terms of individual rights. This being said, however, his government was reluctant to apply the notion of 'peoples' rights' without further clarifications. In too many regimes the concept of people was easily and readily viewed in terms of the alleged rights of the State which again were often defined unilaterally by one political party. Basic individual rights were then gravely endangered. One speaker stated that in its work Unesco should base itself on individual human rights as embodied in international instruments, and should not promote so-called rights of peoples which are not clearly defined as such in those instruments. The speaker added that his country would forcefully resist any tendency to erode the individual, political and civil rights by neglecting them or subordinating them to other concerns of a collective nature. It would also find it difficult to give international acceptance to any concept of peoples' rights which was based upon a definition that established a possible contradiction between such peoples' rights and individual rights. Unesco's programmes must avoid wordings that implied such a contradiction. One delegate stated that in the interest of consensus, the work plan could refer to activities for a better understanding of the rights of peoples which would take into account the opinions and recommendations of the Panel of Experts on Major Programme XIII.

(107) For another speaker, the introduction of the new concept of rights of peoples in addition to human rights had apparently resulted in substantial confusion. These two categories of rights were characterized by a

different relationship to the doctrine of sovereignty. On the other hand an international guarantee of human rights presupposes at least a limitation of State sovereignty in the interest of international practice. These were the types of problem with which the meeting would have to deal. One delegate said that, beyond the right to self-determination, few peoples' rights were internationally recognized. There was no definition of a people nor what rights they could hold. The speaker went on to state that some had suggested that peoples' rights hold some priority over human rights or that the rights of peoples are really the rights of States and of more importance than human rights. Such views were totally unacceptable. While his country could accept the holding of the symposium envisaged in the draft programme and budget, any involvement by Unesco in activities connected with rights of peoples must be explicitly designed to enhance the enjoyment of the universally recognized human rights. Moreover, a symposium should not consider the rights of peoples from the point of view of some possible new legal instrument, since it was not the responsibility of Unesco to draft instruments of international law in the human rights field.

(108) One speaker underlined the importance of minorities in the discussion on human rights. There was a vast amount of material on this subject in the Covenants and the Declarations of the United Nations. There was external auto-determination and internal auto-determination. With this in mind, two situations needed to be studied by Unesco at the symposium mentioned in paragraph 13202 of document 23 C/5: dictatorships which systematically deny human rights and liberties to a people who are exploited in the interest of a restricted social group, often with the aid of foreign powers; and the situation of minorities in States, which without being racist, systematically oppress them.

(109) In the opinion of one speaker, it was not the idea of peoples' rights which caused problems, but the uncertainty of what these rights mean. Statements by some advocates of peoples' rights did not dispel the suspicion that their intention was to invoke these rights in the future to curb the free exercise of already recognized human rights. Use of the word 'dialectical' in the second Medium-Term Plan to describe the links between individual rights and the rights of peoples was unfortunate. 'Dialectical' could, in ordinary language, mean an uncertain relationship in need of central examination. Or it could only be solved in a synthesis where both would change their previous identity. With respect to the relationship between individual rights and the rights of people, reference was often made to the African Charter on Human and

Peoples' Rights of 1981. It was the intention of the Charter to reflect the African conception of human rights and peoples' rights based on the African philosophy of law and on the historical traditions and values of African societies.

(110) The African Charter had not, however, clarified the relations between these rights. It could do this because of the firm roots which the value of group solidarity has in African traditions. For those without these traditions, it was necessary to state that the rights of peoples are communal rights and not rights of States granting leave to restrict the free enjoyment of individual rights.

(111) There was a second aspect of the problem. In an analysis of the Constitution of Unesco, it emerges that certain specific aspects of human rights are assigned to Unesco whereas other equally important aspects are referred to other Specialized Agencies. Moreover, 'furthering universal respect for human rights' in the Constitution specifically means those rights recognized by the United Nations Charter. It was the function of the United Nations to define 'the human rights ... which are affirmed ... by the Charter', and it was the function of Unesco to further universal respect for those rights by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture. It might eventually be the task of the United Nations to recognize new peoples' rights and it would then be Unesco's duty to promote them within its fields of competence. Until that moment, however, its Constitution did not authorize Unesco to act as the United Nations unsolicited think-tank.

(112) One speaker indicated his country's interest in Subprogramme XIII.2.2 whose theme was man faced with science and technology. It was interesting to study how man could take conscience of his rights in a context of rapid social and economic change.

(113) One other speaker drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that human rights cannot be considered in isolation from the socio-economic background in which they are exercised. With this in mind, his country was particularly interested in that part of Programme XIII.2 which concerned the effective exercise of human rights in specific social and economic conditions. The delegate felt that the political and economic stability in a country is an essential prerequisite for its orderly functioning. This was specially true in the case of developing countries. It therefore followed that one of the most important human rights was the right to development. A greater appreciation of this reality should be propagated by Unesco. In addition, the speaker suggested that the Organization should undertake research and study into the denial of the basic right to self-determination

resulting either through incidental or enforced assimilation. Such studies ought to fall within the scope of Subprogramme XIII.2.2 relating to the human rights of disadvantaged social groups. There should also be greater international awareness about communities and nations that have been denied their inalienable right to self-determination.

(114) Some delegates regretted that the activity under paragraph 13215 'Effective access to human rights by disadvantaged social groups' was not accorded higher priority. Another speaker gave her approval fully and without reservation to this subprogramme. Indeed, respect for human rights went beyond their simple recognition and only had true meaning when these rights were actually exercised.

(115) One speaker attached great importance to the activities (paragraph 13223) of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations under the procedures adopted by the Executive Board (104 EX/Decision 3.3).

(116) One delegate, while underlining the importance of Unesco's role in furthering human rights, observed that this required a fully staffed secretariat boasting high professional competence. In this light the delegate found it unfortunate that the post as chief of the division of human rights and peace had apparently not yet been filled or even announced vacant.

Programme XIII.3: Education for peace and respect for human rights and the rights of peoples

Presentation by the Assistant Director-General for Education

(117) Introducing this programme, the representative of the Director-General listed the documents, texts and recommendations upon which it was based.

(118) Under Programme XIII.3, two options were proposed concerning Subprogrammes XIII.3.1, XIII.3.2 and XIII.3.3. Subprogramme XIII.3.1 contained, for both options, a series of activities of general scope designed to ensure the continuation and development of co-operation with Member States and with international non-governmental organizations in order to intensify the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation, in particular through the establishment of a permanent system for reporting on the steps taken by Member States to give effect to that Recommendation. The Director-General's proposals for the establishment of a permanent system of this kind were set out in document 23 C/73. The same Subprogramme XIII.3.2 proposed a series of activities concerning the extension and strengthening of the Associated Schools Project.

(119) The representative of the Director-General pointed out that option 1 proposed under Programme XIII.3 also placed in the context of

Programme Commissions

Subprogramme XIII.3.1 action relating to the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and to the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching.

(120) The purpose of the activities proposed under Subprogramme XIII.3.2 was to promote international education in technical and vocational training and in higher education.

(121) In Subprogramme XIII.3.3, emphasis was laid on practical activities.

(122) In option 2, Subprogramme XIII.3.1 included the same activities as in option 1, except for those pertaining to the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace. Under that option, activities relating to these two plans would be included in a subprogramme amalgamating Subprogrammes XIII.3.2 and XIII.3.3 of document 23 C/5, its content and lines of emphasis remaining the same as in option 1. Subprogramme XIII.3.4 would become Subprogramme XIII.3.3.

(123) Whichever option was chosen, the activities under this subprogramme would consist of practical projects to be carried out under contract and designed to provide support for youth activities. Other activities proposed under this subprogramme were designed to foster co-operation between educational institutions and other social institutions, in particular the media.

(124) Finally, the representative of the Director-General said that several activities other than those provided for in the context of action relating to the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace were designed to make a contribution to it and to be part of it, and that a number of activities were proposed as a contribution to the International Year of Peace.

(125) Introducing document 23 C/67, containing the draft Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace, to the Commission, the representative of the Director-General quoted the relevant recommendation of the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference.

(126) The representative of the Director-General stated that, under the Approved Programme and Budget for 1984-1985 (paragraph 13312), a multi-lateral consultation had been organized in June 1984 at Haikko (Finland) in co-operation with the Finnish National Commission for Unesco. The 15 specialists invited to that consultation by the Director-General had in particular formulated suggestions regarding the preparation of the Plan.

(127) The Executive Board, at its 120th session, had also adopted a decision in favour of launching the Plan. To give effect to that decision of

the Executive Board, the Director-General had proposed in document 23 C/5 the activities required for the launching of the Plan and certain initial activities to be carried out as part of its implementation.

(128) The draft Plan submitted to the General Conference in document 23 C/67 was based on a series of considerations which were set out in paragraph 7 of that document and some of which were mentioned by the representative of the Director-General.

(129) The Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace would provide a framework for more systematic action, spread over a certain period, and would link ongoing, but intensified or expanded, activities with new ones. In order to be realistic and effective, the Plan would include only a limited number of new activities; these should, as far as possible, possess a certain continuity and they would be pursued over a long enough period to achieve the required impact.

(130) The representative of the Director-General stated that the activities foreseen within the framework of the Plan for the years 1986-1987 were included in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 or could be undertaken or supported under the participation programme. When the draft programmes and budgets for subsequent biennia came to be prepared, those activities should probably be more precisely defined in the light of experience and in relation to the resources then available to the Organization. The draft Plan, whilst it aimed to maintain continuity of action, was open-ended in design and could thus be adjusted to take account of developments in the programme of the Organization and the lessons arising from its execution. The representative of the Director-General pointed out that the activities in the field of education foreseen in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 in connection with the International Year of Peace formed an integral part of the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace.

(131) The representative of the Director-General then introduced document 23 C/73 (Establishment of a permanent system of reporting on the steps taken by Member States to apply the 1974 Recommendation). He reminded the Commission of the decisions taken by the Intergovernmental Conference of 1983 and the resolutions concerning that question adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session. Under the Programme and Budget for 1984-1985, the Director-General had arranged for the study of the establishment of such a permanent system and had submitted to the General Conference, in document 23 C/73, the proposals he had worked out in the light of the recommendations and

the various texts cited in paragraph 3 of that document, together with the questionnaire annexed thereto.

(132) The representative of the Director-General pointed out that since educational structures and constitutional provisions differed from one Member State to another, the drafting of a well designed questionnaire, followed by the compilation of a summary of the reports and the extraction of conclusions therefrom were not easy tasks. The expert consultative committee whose establishment was proposed in paragraph 13307 of document 23 C/5 as a follow-up to Recommendation No. 3 of the Intergovernmental Conference, and which was to make recommendations on the implementation of the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace, might therefore be asked to advise the Director-General on the drafting of the questionnaires and to help in analysing the reports prepared by Member States.

(133) The representative of the Director-General briefly described the procedure proposed for the preparation and consideration of those reports, which was set out in paragraph 9 of document 23 C/73, adding that Unesco would also, every six years, publish a report on the progress achieved throughout the world in the application of the 1974 Recommendation.

Debate

(134) Fifty-three of the 68 speakers who took the floor during the discussion of unit 19 referred to Programme XIII.3, and with a few exceptions, gave it their approval or stressed certain parts of it. Most delegates who referred to it considered that, in many ways, Programme XIII.3 was the most important part of Major Programme XIII. Many of them mentioned their support for the consensus which had been reached by making reciprocal concessions at the 121st session of the Executive Board, and drew the Commission's attention to the fragility of this consensus and the danger of attempting to reclassify activities at all cost. A number of delegates expressed their satisfaction that Programme XIII.3 had been conceived within the framework of the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation and provided concrete follow-up activities to the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference. Others underlined the necessity of maintaining the budgetary allocations at the level proposed in document 23 C/5 which in their view should be considered as the very minimum, given the central importance of Programme XIII.3 in the overall programme and budget of the Organization. One delegate felt that the increase of resources allocated to Programme XIII.3 was a positive trend.

(135) A few delegates noted with

satisfaction the progress achieved in the concentration of activities and in the efforts to articulate their implementation. Some speakers expressed the wish to be closely associated with the execution of particular elements of the programme, offering the experience acquired by their countries in the service of international co-operation, or to host meetings foreseen in document 23 C/5, or calling upon Unesco to provide international assistance in their efforts to promote international education. On the other hand, four delegates expressed reservations with regard to certain parts of Programme XIII.3. One of them felt that this programme in recent years has been the cause of much concern because its activities seem to have been based on too narrow a definition of peace and international understanding; another felt that the overall balance of activities required some adjustments; yet another suggested that it was extremely important that the planning, formulation and execution of projects be as objective or neutral as possible and that there was a need to draw on a wide variety of opinions and institutions - since 'balance' was not necessarily achieved by mere geographical distribution.

(136) In a different vein, several speakers considered that the proposed activities under Programme XIII.3 were far too modest and did not do justice to the crucial importance of international education; they expressed their wish to see this programme receive more attention and more allocation of resources in future biennia when the financial difficulties of the Organization are overcome. One of them indicated that compared to the provisions of document 22 C/5, the proposed distribution of resources showed a transfer of important amounts of funds from activities concerning education for international understanding, co-operation, peace and respect of human rights to activities concerning exclusively human rights teaching, thus creating a serious imbalance. In his view, these amounts far exceeded the cost of the proposed international congress on human rights teaching and that consequently there was a need to readjust the distribution of resources.

(137) Two speakers, on the other hand, felt that the proposed programme and budget for Programme XIII.3 placed too much emphasis on education for disarmament and one of them stated that he felt that Unesco activities under Programme XIII.3 should be firmly based on the aims and principles of the 1974 Recommendation, and thus be implemented with a broad and comprehensive perspective covering five key areas such as (a) international understanding; (b) international co-operation; (c) peace; (d) human rights; and (e) fundamental freedoms.

Programme Commissions

(138) One delegate expressed the satisfaction of her country with the comprehensive manner in which Unesco had systematized international thinking on the educational issues relating to the programme both by means of the 1974 Recommendation and the Recommendations of the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference.

(139) In this respect, numerous references were made during the debate to the Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education Relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms adopted by the General Conference at its eighteenth session in 1974 and to the need to continue and consolidate its application. As was said by one delegate - who spoke on behalf of several Member States - this recommendation 'should be an umbrella for all the activities Unesco undertakes under Programme XIII.3'. Along the same lines, delegates welcomed the recommendations of the panel of counsellors and those of the Executive Board adopted at its 121st session to the effect that activities proposed under this programme should be primarily guided by the provisions of the 1974 Recommendation which, in the view of a number of speakers, should be applied to all stages and forms of education including technical and vocational education. Another delegate felt that Unesco should concentrate on encouraging and supporting activities of Member States for the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation.

(140) Given the characteristics of Programme XIII.3, four delegates felt that in the future, attempts should be made to integrate it with the three Major Programmes, II, IV and V which deal primarily with education, or to examine the activities proposed under this programme in Commission II. One of them felt that this could contribute to the concentration of the overall programme and budget of the Organization.

(141) The two options proposed for the structuring of this programme were referred to by a large number of speakers, the large majority of them giving preference to option 1. Two of those who expressed their preference for option 2 considered that this option provided a better concentration of activities. Some of the arguments put forward in favour of option 1 were: that it was more in line with the substantial orientation of the Medium-Term Plan; that it appeared to be a more logical arrangement for organizing activities in the field of international education; that it related more closely the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching, and allowed for better co-ordination and consistency between them; and that since the two plans together dealt with all the areas covered by the 1974 Recommendation, the presentation of their

activities under the same first sub-programme in option 1 were preferable. One delegate stated that if the grouping of programme action in option 2 is engendered by the principle of combining, for equal attention, formal and non-formal modes of education, then some merit was seen in this option.

(142) The activities proposed under Subprogramme XIII.3.1, set out in paragraphs 13306, 13307 and 13310 (option 1), were the subject of specific comments by several delegates. General activities aimed at ensuring the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation and follow-up action on the recommendations of the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference were widely supported. Some speakers referred in this respect to document 23 C/73 and supported it, or supported the proposed resolution contained in it. Two delegates, welcoming the establishment of a permanent system of reporting, hoped that it would be both effective and pragmatic. One delegate, while fully supporting the proposed establishment of a system of reporting on the progress made in implementing the 1974 Recommendation, did not feel it appropriate to set up a permanent system at the present stage, and suggested that it should start as a pilot scheme. Another delegate found difficulties in integrating the system of reporting with the proposed action in paragraph 13306(b), which seeks to launch an interregional project to simulate more comprehensive implementation of the 1974 Recommendation.

(143) Almost all the delegates who referred to the draft Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace supported the proposals contained in document 23 C/67. One delegate felt that the draft Plan was in conformity with Recommendation No. 3 of the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference. Others expressed the hope that its implementation would be carried out in close co-ordination with the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching (paragraph 13309 of 21 C/5). Still another expressed his keen interest in its implementation. One delegate felt, that without such a Plan the 1974 Recommendation would remain unimplemented. Another noted with satisfaction that it must be seen as an attempt to create a more systematic action, and that it contained only a few new activities for the sake of realism and efficiency.

(144) On the other hand, one delegate, referring to the whole Subprogramme XIII.3, felt that it separated education for international understanding from education for human rights, and that this was contrary to the 1974 Recommendation. The same delegate regretted that the document containing the draft Plan had been received too late to warrant a careful study and examination and felt that it was vague. Drawing on his country's experience, one

speaker made two suggestions for further action within the framework of the draft Plan. Two delegates offered to cooperate and participate in the specific activities included in document 23 C/5 Draft, i.e. under items (b) and (e) of paragraph 13307.

(145) With regard to the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching, several countries expressed satisfaction to see the Congress proposed within the draft programme and budget. One speaker remarked that this mention of the Congress was most welcome and gratifying. Another spoke of the centrality of human rights teaching.

(146) Many delegates noted with satisfaction the activities proposed for the extension and consolidation of the Associated Schools Project. Some expressed the hope that more resources might be devoted to their activities. One speaker suggested the upgrading of activity 13310(b) from second to first priority; another felt that with some shifts of resources within Programme XIII.3, an activity of evaluation of the Associated Schools Project (ASPRO) could be carried out, thus adding an item (k) to paragraph 13310 of document 23 C/5. Yet another suggestion dealt with the need to make available, in national languages, publications and documents prepared for the promotion of the Associated Schools and Unesco Clubs. A few other speakers referred to the active participation of their countries in the Associated Schools Project and concluded that in their view there were clear signs that ASPRO had the capacity to adapt to the changing needs within Member States - and more concretely, according to one delegate - within the schools and teacher-training centres. One delegate stated that the Associated Schools Project and the activities of Unesco Clubs should be promoted, bearing in mind the basic principles of the 1974 Recommendation.

(147) A number of delegates insisted on the importance of certain elements in paragraph 13310 of document 23 C/5, including the organization of regional meetings for the formulation of strategies of action for national coordinators of the Associated Schools Project, the organization of a European meeting of pupils of Associated Schools at Unesco Headquarters and, as a follow-up to the International Youth Year on the occasion of the International Year of Peace, the organization of regional workshops for teachers and curriculum specialists to prepare and publish educational material on themes of international education.

(148) Several speakers referred during the debate to the actions proposed under Subprogramme XIII.3.2 (Strengthening of action in school education including technical and vocational education and extension to higher education) as they appeared in paragraphs 13316 and 13317 of document

23 C/5. While a number of delegates supported some or all of the proposed activities, three delegates were in favour of downgrading to second priority or cancelling the proposed practical seminar to draw up experimental projects in the fields recommended by the international consultation of eminent scientists and specialists in the social sciences and in higher education (paragraph 13317(a)). On the other hand, a number of delegates stressed the importance of activities to improve programmes, methods and materials used in international education, and for encouraging the incorporation of content relating to international education in the curricular thus welcoming the proposed action for the revision of curricula and school textbooks under paragraph 13316. As one delegate stated, international education could not take deep roots unless integrated with curricula and courses at all levels and in all forms of education. In this respect, it was suggested that by establishing a resource centre for international education, Unesco could provide assistance to Member States in promoting the exchange of teaching-learning materials developed by different countries.

(149) Subprogramme XIII.3.3 (action 1) met with the full support of several delegations. The proposed action was judged useful and relevant to the needs of developing countries. Due to the large number of drop-outs and school-leavers, as well as of workers who did not have the opportunity to finish formal education, one delegate felt that the extension of action to out-of-school education and adult education was particularly needed. While giving his endorsement to the programme and expressing the wish of his country to participate in it, one delegate suggested that Unesco should prepare an evaluation to show the cost-effectiveness of the action proposed under paragraph 13323. Referring to the role of 'civic education', two other delegates considered that it should be extended to all stages and forms of education within the framework of continuing (permanent or life-long) education. However, one delegate felt that paragraph 13323(a) was unacceptable in its present form.

(150) With regard to Subprogramme XIII.3.4 (Alerting and informing public opinion and support for youth activities under this programme), many delegates mentioned their interest in this subprogramme. Certain speakers underlined the paramount importance which the education of youth should have for human rights and for peace. One delegate remarked in particular that the programme on youth, and the Sector of Social and Human Sciences in general, should reinforce this action with regard to the education of youth. Another delegate insisted on the importance of exchanges between youth and the

Programme Commissions

important role Unesco could play in developing this sector of activities. Many speakers underlined with satisfaction the co-operation received from Unesco for national projects and others their desire to be associated with the implementation of the activities foreseen in the framework of this sub-programme. The report of the World Congress on Youth held in Barcelona (1985) was widely diffused.

(151) Two delegates referred to action 2 in paragraph 13352, stating that they did not support it. While one delegate approved the proposed action for the encouragement of debate and action by rural people from different countries and expressed the wish to participate in its implementation, another delegate felt that it was not a priority for the coming biennium.

Reply by the Assistant Director-General for Education

(152) Replying to the debate on Programme XIII.3, the representative of the Director-General said that a large majority of the speakers who had made statements on Major Programme XIII had stressed the importance of the Organization's educational action in the fields relating to that Major Programme. Several delegates had felt that priority in Major Programme XIII should be given to educational action.

(153) Many speakers had recalled that the 1974 Recommendation constituted the basis and frame of reference for the Organization's programmes in that field. The representative of the Director-General stressed, in that connection, that the proposed programme had indeed been drawn up on the basis and within the framework of that Recommendation. More especially, the actions proposed under Subprogramme XIII.3.1 on the implementation of the 1974 Recommendation and the follow-up to the 1983 Intergovernmental Conference had received wide approval on the part of the Commission.

(154) The great majority of the 23 speakers who had referred to the draft Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace (document 23 C/67) had approved of it, and many of them had supported the proposals formulated in paragraph 13307 of document 23 C/5, providing for a series of activities for its implementation as from 1986. Since one delegate had, nevertheless, felt that the document on the draft Plan had come out too late to be studied in depth, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that the Secretariat had made every effort to see that the Plan reached Member States as quickly as possible - in the case of the English version, more than a month before the opening of the twenty-third session of the General Conference and nearly seven weeks before the beginning

of the debates in Commission V on the relevant part of the programme.

(155) The representative of the Director-General said that it seemed to him difficult to describe the Plan as 'vague', as one delegate had done. Several delegates had found it to be clear, realistic and concrete, containing very detailed particulars for the first biennium (1986-1987). If it was less detailed for the following biennia, that was because of a concern that the Plan be open-ended and dynamic and capable of being adjusted in the light of experience acquired and in accordance with the resources the Organization would have at its disposal.

(156) The representative of the Director-General said that he had taken note of the desire expressed by several delegates that execution of the Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace be co-ordinated with that of the Plan for the Development of Human Rights Teaching, an idea which was already implicit in document 23 C/67 (paragraph 7(i)).

(157) The representative of the Director-General noted that 21 of the 28 delegates who had spoken on the options proposed for Programme XIII.3 had shown a preference for option 1.

(158) Several delegates, he pointed out, had referred to the need to conduct the activities envisaged under Programme XIII.3 within the framework of the 1974 Recommendation and welcomed the actions proposed in that connection in document 23 C/5. However, two delegates had apparently felt that too much prominence was being given to disarmament education. In that connection, the representative of the Director-General recalled that the 1974 Recommendation, in paragraph 18(b), specifically mentioned disarmament as one of those questions that should be studied in the context of international education. Several United Nations resolutions requested the Specialized Agencies to deal with questions of disarmament within their fields of competence. The General Conference had itself adopted resolutions on the matter, in particular 22 C/Resolution 20. Similar lines of emphasis were likewise to be found in the Organization's Medium-Term Plan, and the Panel of Counsellors that had given its views on that question in January 1985 had considered, for its part, that Unesco should give priority, in respect of disarmament questions, to educational activities, without however excluding research.

(159) As for the respective place and scope assigned to the various activities and the allocation of resources to the various components of Programme XIII.3, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that some 62 per cent of the budget provisions (after reduction of staff costs were devoted - for the most part - to

activities relating generally to international education, or to activities relating to both peace and human rights, or again to those relating to peace, human rights and certain other questions included in the text of the 1974 Recommendation. It was proposed to earmark the greater part of the remaining 38 per cent - 24.6 per cent to be exact - to activities relating solely to human rights, 7.1 per cent to activities bearing on peace, disarmament, development and/or security, and 6.25 per cent of the total budget provision to activities relating exclusively to peace. It was for the delegates to assess, in the light of that information, the real priorities and weight of the various activities planned under Programme XIII.3 and to judge whether they were well balanced.

(160) The representative of the Director-General was pleased to note that, of all the proposals made under Programme XIII.3, those that concerned the strengthening of the Associated Schools were among those that had received the widest support. Many delegates had expressed the wish that greater resources be devoted to that activity. A special effort had indeed been made in that direction, inasmuch as the resources earmarked for the 1986-1987 biennium represented a significant increase over those in document 22 C/5, even if only the amounts proposed for first-priority actions were considered.

(161) As for the activities proposed with regard to the extension of the programme of international education to include out-of-school education and adult education, some delegates from developing countries had considered those proposals particularly well adapted to their needs because of the insufficient development of their school systems, their high wastage rates, and the need to satisfy the need for training in the field of international education for literacy training and adult education personnel.

(162) One delegate having questioned the choice of certain non-governmental organizations to carry out programme activities under contract, the representative of the Director-General pointed out that they were NGOs to which the Executive Board had granted category A or B status. He further stressed that Unesco was bound neither by the content of their statements nor by the conclusions reached by their meetings, even if they had received financial or other assistance.

(163) In conclusion, the representative of the Director-General emphasized the fruitfulness and quality of the debate, which had provided the Secretariat, even more than in the past, with a whole series of detailed comments and proposals affecting the very substance of the programme. He gave an assurance that the Secretariat would study all the statements attentively

with a view to the implementation of the programme, especially as regards co-operation with governments and non-governmental organizations, and he expressed warm thanks to all the countries that had proposed to take part in the implementation of Programme XIII.3 by offering to organize some of the meetings foreseen or by expressing their desire to take part in one or other of the activities.

Programme XIII.4: Elimination of discrimination based on sex

(164) All who spoke on this programme welcomed it as an important part of the activities of Major Programme XIII. Stress was particularly placed on the equality of women in political and economic life and the need for compensatory measures in their favour. One speaker spoke of the importance of law and the monitoring of law. Some speakers gave support to evaluation projects and especially to the activities promoting the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. A need was also stressed to integrate the elimination of discrimination against women in all programmes concerning research, education and information on human rights.

C. Reply by the representative of the Director-General on Major Programme XIII

(165) The Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences thanked the speakers who had intervened during the examination of Major Programme XIII. He assured the delegations that the Secretariat would take into account the numerous observations, opinions and suggestions in the implementation of the programme. He also thanked those delegations which had offered their co-operation.

(166) The Assistant Director-General noted that, for most speakers, the mission of Unesco in Major Programme XIII flowed from its Constitution. For some, ideas of peace and international co-operation themselves served the ideals of peace and justice, while for others Unesco should, in addition to educational, scientific, information and cultural work, contribute to peace and to international security.

(167) The Assistant Director-General thanked one delegate for having indicated that these two tasks were intimately linked. He went on to point out that there were numerous points of agreement among delegates. First of all no delegate had spoken against this major programme as a whole. Secondly there had been an immense effort of reflection and of analysis of the theme. This came through the debate and was a witness of the importance that all the delegates attached to this Major Programme. No one had denied the legitimacy

Programme Commissions

of the Organization's undertaking activities in the spheres of peace, international understanding and human rights.

(168) There was also consensus on the necessity for Unesco to undertake activities which came within its fields of competence. There was a particular insistence that Unesco should avoid duplication with institutions of the United Nations with whom close co-operation should be reinforced. There was also a very large consensus as far as the Programme XIII.4 (Elimination of discrimination based on sex) was concerned.

(169) Moreover a number of delegations had underlined in their statements that this Major Programme was an improvement, given the number of training activities as well as those for the diffusion of the knowledge of international instruments.

(170) Points of disagreement were essentially on the modalities and the way in which priorities should be achieved within the programme. There were two major areas of disagreement, those relative to disarmament and those relative to the rights of peoples.

(171) The Assistant Director-General then took up the problem of duplication and illustrated this in the area of disarmament. It was the General Assembly itself that had asked Unesco to co-operate for disarmament by research, education, information, communication and culture. In fact there were formal and informal methods of inter-institutional co-operation within institutions and departments of the United Nations both in the area of peace and in that of human rights.

(172) With regard to disarmament the work that Unesco did was sociological, economic, cultural, historical and sometimes psychological: it was rarely of a legal nature. What Unesco attempted to do in the past was to examine the multiplicities of levels of social and cultural life which were affected by the arms race. No other specialized organization or institution of the United Nations had up to the present looked at the question of this type of complexity.

(173) With regard to people's rights, the Secretariat simply wished to recall that, taking into consideration the largest possible number of opinions, the Secretariat proposed an international meeting in order to study the idea of the rights of peoples and the relation of this to human rights. This seminar would take place in close collaboration with the competent services of the United Nations and the non-governmental organizations in the social sciences.

(174) The Assistant Director-General concluded his reply with the hope that the consensus attained at the Executive Board would be reinforced. He also assured the delegates that he hoped

that the activities on which they agreed would respond to the aspirations of the international community.

D. Recommendations pertaining to discussion unit 19

(175) The Commission decided at its ninth meeting to set up a Working Group to examine the following draft resolutions which introduce amendments to the proposed resolution 13.1 (23 C/5, Volume II, paragraph 13002): 23 C/DR.51 (United Kingdom and Federal Republic of Germany); 23 C/DR.86 (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics); 23 C/DR.136 (France); 23 C/DR.199 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.217 & Add. (United Kingdom); 23 C/DR.222 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.226 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.241 (Switzerland); 23 C/DR.266 (Mongolia); 23 C/DR.272 (Pakistan and Egypt); 23 C/DR.278 (United Kingdom); 23 C/DR.279 (Islamic Republic of Iran).

(176) The Commission decided that the Working Group would be composed as follows:

Electoral Group I

Austria
Norway
United Kingdom

Electoral Group II

Bulgaria
German Democratic Republic
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Electoral Group III

Brazil
Cuba
Mexico

Electoral Group IV

Mongolia
Pakistan
Thailand

Electoral Group Va

Ivory Coast
Madagascar
Zimbabwe

Electoral Group Vb

Algeria
Jordan
Mauritania

(177) Before the Working Group began its discussions, the Chairman sought to pinpoint the main ideas on which it could base its work in seeking to arrive at a consensus. The Chairman said that no restriction had been placed on the length of speeches during the debate, which, constructive as it was, had been both frank and enriching.

(178) Although the speeches had shown a diversity of opinions about Major Programme XIII and a great variety of approaches, he pointed to a number of novel features - as compared with

previous sessions of the General Conference - on which there was unanimity; these numbered eight in all and were likewise evidence of some change in the views held on the issues involved:

(a) The problems of peace and disarmament were among the most serious, if not the most serious problems, facing mankind today.

(b) No one any longer denied Unesco's constitutional right to concern itself with peace and disarmament within its fields of competence.

(c) While Unesco had to concern itself with peace and disarmament, however, it was by no means the only organization in the United Nations system that was qualified to do so, and it was therefore necessary to delimit the scope of its competence. Accordingly, the technical, strategic, military or political aspects were the responsibility of the competent organs of the United Nations, while Unesco's mission required it to consider how education, science and culture could contribute to peace. Any duplication therefore had to be avoided.

(d) Unesco's action with regard to peace and disarmament should focus on what might unite Member States and bring them closer together.

(e) The concept of the rights of peoples was now accepted.

(f) It was accepted by all that Unesco should concern itself with that concept even if it gave rise to problems.

(g) Given the epistemological status of the concept of rights of peoples, Unesco should not contemplate any standard-setting measures in that connection, but should seek to elucidate the concept through reflection, research and scientific investigation. Everyone now accepted the concepts, universally accepted by the United Nations, of:

(i) the right of peoples to self-determination;

(ii) the right of peoples freely to dispose of their natural wealth and resources;

(iii) the right of peoples to security;

(iv) the right of peoples to development.

(h) The increase in the budgetary provisions for Major Programme XIII had benefited only activities relating to human rights and not those relating to the rights of peoples, since the budgetary provision for the first series of activities amounted to \$314,500, whereas it amounted to only \$40,000 for the second. Under Programme XIII.3 (Education for peace and respect for human rights and the rights of peoples), there was a provision of \$269,800 for the development of human rights teaching, as against \$50,000 for work under the heading of human rights and the rights of peoples. In all, \$584,000 had been set aside for activities concerning human rights, as against only \$90,000 for those concerning the rights of peoples, or nearly six times more. The argument

of waste put forward by some delegations consequently did not stand up to an analysis of the facts. Similarly, any reduction in activities provided for under Major Programme XIII would be liable to conflict with the interest that Member States were taking in the question.

(179) The Chairman went on to say that the Working Group should take that concordance of views as its starting point and should bear in mind:

(a) the consensus worked out at the 121st and 122nd sessions of the Executive Board;

(b) the text of the 1974 Recommendation;

(c) the work of the panel of counsellors which had met in Paris in January 1985, at least as far as the conclusions agreed upon by all were concerned, since some of the conclusions did not meet with unanimous approval;

(d) the great majority that had expressed themselves in favour of Major Programme XIII, for out of 66 speakers, 11 had entered reservations, five being serious reservations and six qualified reservations;

(e) the unanimous recognition that human rights and the rights of peoples fall within the scope of the tasks assigned to Unesco; it was clear, moreover, that the rights of peoples were not the rights of States and that Unesco should encourage reflection on the relationship between the rights of peoples and human rights;

(f) the fact that the struggle for peace and disarmament and the struggle for freedom, independence, equality and justice or, in other words, for human rights and the rights of peoples, were inseparable.

(180) At its fifteenth meeting, the Chairman informed the Commission of the results achieved by the Working Group, which he had himself chaired. He explained the working procedures of the Working Group and underlined that throughout the debates, each member of the Group had been given ample time to have discussions on the amendments proposed with other members of his delegation or government.

(181) He also explained the difficulties encountered by one member in agreeing at one stage with the two subparagraphs pertaining to the operative part of the resolution on Programme XIII.1, and at another stage with two more subparagraphs pertaining to the same operative part, problems that were editorial in nature. The meeting was then suspended so that the Working Group might further explore the possibilities of reaching a consensus.

(182) The Commission then decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference for adoption the version of 23 C/COM.V/DR.12, prepared and subsequently amended by the Working Group of the Commission. This resolution amends resolution 13.1 proposed by the

Programme Commissions

Director-General in paragraph 13002 of document 23 C/5 (23 C/Resolution 13.1).

(183) In his report to Commission V on the deliberations of the Working Group, the Chairman also read out two letters he had sent to the Director-General concerning the rewording of certain paragraphs of parts of the work plan of Major Programme XIII (see Annex I to this report).

(184) After a number of delegates had congratulated the Chairman and the Working Group, the Commission indicated by a round of applause its deep appreciation of their work.

(185) The Chairman then presented 23 C/COM.V/DR.13, based on the Working Group's consideration of 23 C/DR.245 submitted by the United Kingdom proposing to amend the resolution contained in paragraph 14 of document 23 C/67 entitled 'Draft Plan for the Development of Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace. The Commission then decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference for adoption 23 C/COM.V/DR.13 prepared by the Working Group of the Commission on the basis of the resolution proposed by the Director-General in paragraph 14 of document 23 C/67, and amended from the floor (23 C/Resolution 13.4).

(186) With regard to the resolution contained in paragraph 11 of document 23 C/73 entitled 'Establishment of a permanent system of reporting on the steps taken by Member States to apply the Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace and Education Relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms adopted by the General Conference at its eighteenth session, on 19 November 1974', the Commission accepted the amendment proposed by the delegate of Finland. It decided by consensus to recommend the resolution for the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 13.3).

(187) The following draft resolutions were withdrawn by their sponsors: 23 C/DR.191 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.227 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.10 (Nigeria); 23 C/DR.14 (Nigeria); 23 C/DR.263 (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden). In the case of the last draft resolution, one delegation, on behalf of the group of Nordic countries, wished to indicate that they attached great importance to the 1974 Recommendation and hoped that Unesco would follow the wording of this Recommendation in implementing Programme XIII.3. Nevertheless, in the spirit of consensus, that group decided to withdraw draft resolution 263.

(188) The Commission then decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference that it adopt draft resolution 23 C/DR.211, submitted by Bulgaria, as revised during the deliberations of the Working Group of the Commission (23 C/Resolution 13.5).

(189) The Commission then examined

the following draft resolutions and requested that the General Conference take note of them and invite the Director-General to take them into account, as far as possible, in drawing up the text of the Approved Programme and Budget (23 C/5 Approved) of Major Programme XIII and in the execution of the programme: 23 C/DR.66 (India); 23 C/DR.228 (German Democratic Republic); 23 C/DR.231 Rev. (Romania and Federal Republic of Germany); 23 C/DR.248 (Australia, India, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Thailand); 23 C/DR.249 (Uruguay and Ecuador); 23 C/DR.279 Rev. (Islamic Republic of Iran).

(190) Concerning draft resolution 23 C/DR.143 submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and suggesting the down-grading of ten activities proposed under Major Programme XIII, the Chairman announced that its sponsor had agreed to withdraw a number of proposals contained therein; the Commission agreed to invite the delegation of the United Kingdom to pursue its discussions with the Secretariat and consider the final results at its next meeting.

(191) With respect to two draft resolutions with budgetary implications, i.e. 23 C/DR.78 Rev. submitted by Czechoslovakia and 23 C/DR.57 submitted by Nigeria, the Commission agreed with the Chairman's observation that these two proposals would be examined by the joint meeting of the five Programme Commissions.

(192) The Commission recommended that the General Conference take note of the work plan for Major Programme XIII, including the budget estimates for each of the relevant programmes set out in paragraphs 13101-13501. With regard to the two options proposed in Programme XIII.3, the Commission agreed that option 1 be retained by the General Conference.

(193) Lastly, the Commission took note separately of the budget for Programmes XIII.1, XIII.2, XIII.3 and XIII.4 and the participation programme. It recommended that the General Conference approve for Major Programme XIII a budget provision of \$4,898,500, under the regular programme (paragraph 13001 of document 23 C/5), after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) an amount of \$1,071,000 for second-priority (single asterisk) activities and the corresponding staff costs, it being understood that these budget provisions might be modified in the light of the adjustments resulting from the distribution of the funds which might be allocated to this major programme from the reserve for draft resolutions and from any other adjustments which might be decided upon by the joint meeting of the Administrative Commission and the five Programme Commissions.

(194) During the Commission's sixteenth meeting, the Chairman made the following statement concerning

modifications to the work plan of Major Programme XIII resulting from the adoption of proposed resolution 13.1.

'A. Subprogramme XIII.1.1

Paragraph 13104 (Expected results)

The first subparagraph remains unchanged.

A new second subparagraph is introduced and reads as follows: "Improved exchanges of information between national, regional and international social and human science research institutions with a view to a better understanding of the causes and consequences of violations of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations; the use of threat of use of force; foreign intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States and armed aggression".

The other paragraphs are unchanged.

Paragraph 13106(a). The text is unchanged up to "conducive to peace", then add the following: "and on the causes and consequences of violations of the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations; the use or threat of use of force; foreign intervention and interference in the internal affairs of States and armed aggression".

B. Subprogramme XIII.1.2

Paragraph 13113 (Targets)

The first subparagraph is altered and reads as follows: "To promote capacities for research in the social and human sciences and exchanges of information, academic contacts and awareness among experts and institutions specializing in the field of disarmament concerning all aspects of disarmament, including the causes and consequences of the arms race and the relationship between peace, security and disarmament, and the potential interrelations between disarmament and educational, scientific and cultural development".

A new second subparagraph to read as follows: "To facilitate unhindered access by the public at large to all information, including particularly that produced by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, likely to give them an adequate knowledge and better understanding of the level of armaments and of the questions of arms limitation, and disarmament and the consequences of the arms race, in order that public opinion may be in a position to exert a positive influence on the achievement of the objectives of peace and disarmament".

The following subparagraph to read as follows: "To contribute to a better knowledge and understanding of all questions concerning disarmament, particularly through measures calculated

to improve the use of materials produced by the competent bodies of the United Nations system;".

Another subparagraph to read as follows: "To improve the procedures making it possible to use Unesco's information media for the more effective dissemination of the studies and information relating to disarmament emanating from the competent bodies of the United Nations system;".

Finally, the last subparagraph concerning the United Nations World Disarmament Campaign is unchanged.

Paragraph 13114 (Expected results)

In the first subparagraph, after the words "culture and communication", insert the words "all questions concerning disarmament, including the causes and consequences of the arms race ...", the rest of the paragraph remaining unchanged.

A new second subparagraph is to read as follows: "The broadest possible dissemination of all information, including particularly that produced by the appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, likely to give the public at large an adequate knowledge and better understanding of the level of armaments and of the questions of arms limitation, disarmament and the consequences of the arms race".

The other two subparagraphs remain unchanged.

I have already read out the changes that I transmitted to the Director-General on your behalf in my letter dated 30 October concerning paragraph 13115(a), and shall not go back over them (see 23 C/115, Add. 2).

C. Subprogramme XIII.2.1

Here, too, I shall not read out again the changes that I conveyed to the Director-General in my letter of 31 October concerning paragraphs 13203 (third subparagraph), 13204 (second subparagraph) and 13207 (Clarification of the rights of peoples as human rights, subparagraph (a)) (see 23 C/115, Add. 2).

D. Subprogramme XIII.2.2

Paragraph 13212 (Targets)

In the first subparagraph, add at the end: "as regards new aspects or aspects that are complementary to those dealt with by the United Nations Centre on Human Rights".

Paragraph 13213 (Expected results)

At the end of the first subparagraph, add the same phrase as above.

Paragraph 13214(a) (Programme action)

After "recent advances in science

Programme Commissions

and technology", add ", such support applying only to new aspects or to aspects that are complementary to those dealt with by the United Nations Centre on Human Rights".

I come now to some budgetary adjustments resulting from the amendments made to the proposed resolution for Major Programme XIII and, consequently, to the work plan.

First, the sum of \$10,000 should be moved from subparagraph (b) to subpara-

graph (a) of paragraph 13115 to cover the additional studies requested of Unesco in subparagraph (a).

Furthermore, account should be taken of the importance attached to the symposium on the rights of peoples, thus increasing the budget provision for this symposium, in particular by reducing the budget provision for the booklets envisaged under paragraph 13214(c) and by reducing the number of regional meetings provided for in paragraph 13214(c).'

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 5.4 - EVALUATION OF THE PROCEDURES ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD FOR THE EXAMINATION OF COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS FALLING WITHIN UNESCO'S FIELDS OF COMPETENCE

A. Introduction

(195) Since the item concerned a joint report by the Executive Board and the Director-General, it was introduced to the Commission by the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Deputy Director-General who represented the Director-General.

(196) In his introductory statement, the Chairman of the Executive Board recalled that the General Conference, by resolutions 13.2 and 18.2 adopted at its twenty-second session, had invited the Executive Board and the Director-General to evaluate and, if necessary, review in the light of the results achieved and the experience gained, as well as of the experience of other United Nations organs dealing with human rights and fundamental freedoms, the procedures adopted by the Board in 1978 by 104 EX/Decision 3.3, for the examination of communications concerning alleged violations of human rights falling within Unesco's fields of competence, and to submit to the General Conference at its twenty-third session a report and appropriate recommendations as necessary. He explained the nature of the four parts of document 23 C/17 now before the Commission. He drew particular attention to Annex II which is a reproduction of the report (document 121 EX/49) submitted to the Executive Board by its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations at its 121st session consequent upon the Committee's evaluation of the human rights procedures concerned. The Chairman of the Executive Board indicated that the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations had reported to the Board at its 121st session that at the end of the Committee's work, there appeared to be two basic trends of opinion within it. One trend favoured the maintenance, for the time being, of the procedures laid down by 104 EX/Decision 3.3, it being understood that, at some future date, a review might be considered in the light of the evolution of the work and practice of the Committee. He pointed out that this position was supported by a substantial number of

members of the Committee. He added that, on the other hand, there were some other members of the Committee who had expressed certain reservations, anxieties and criticisms of the procedures currently applied and had indicated how, in their view, the procedures could be made more efficient. The Chairman of the Board stated further that the Committee had reported to the Executive Board these two trends of opinion and informed the Board that it would make no recommendations regarding possible modifications to the procedures applied by it since 1978. He concluded by recalling, on the one hand, that when the report of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations was examined by the Executive Board itself at its 121st session, this divergence of view was equally reflected in the Board's discussion and, on the other hand, that on completing its examination of the Committee's report, the Executive Board had decided to take note of that report.

(197) In his introductory remarks, the Deputy Director-General indicated on behalf of the Director-General some of the salient information which the Secretariat had put at the disposal of both the Executive Board and its Committee on Conventions and Recommendations for the purposes of the evaluation requested by the General Conference at its twenty-second session. That information which was given in document 120 EX/17 and updated in document 121 EX/37, chiefly concerned the membership, terms of reference, practice and methods of work of the Board's Committee on Conventions and Recommendations, which was the body responsible for examining communications submitted to Unesco in accordance with the above-mentioned procedures, and for taking stock of the six years of their application from 1978 to 1984. The Deputy Director-General added that for the purposes of the evaluation of Unesco's procedures regarding human rights as defined in 104 EX/Decision 3.3, four similar procedures existing in the United Nations system had been selected for comparison. Those procedures were: (i) the procedures

instituted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council by virtue of resolution 1503 (XLVIII) dated 27 May 1970, which sought to establish whether or not there were grounds for believing that there existed, in a given country, a situation appearing to reveal the existence of a pattern of flagrant and systematic violations of human rights, using communications submitted by individuals or groups as sources of information; (ii) the procedure in force in regard to the Human Rights Committee instituted by the Optional Protocol relating to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, a procedure applying only to communications the authors of which complain that a State Party has not respected the obligations and rights stemming from the Covenant; (iii) the procedure instituted under Article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, which came into operation in 1984, a procedure applied only to communications falling within the purview of that Convention; (iv) the procedure for examining communications in the Committee on Freedom of Association of the ILO Governing Body, the Committee being responsible for making a preliminary examination of allegations of violation of freedom of association prior to their consideration by the Governing Body and by the Fact-finding and Conciliation Commission. Before concluding his introductory statement, the Deputy Director-General reiterated that the Executive Board's Committee on Conventions and Recommendations had made no recommendations regarding possible modifications to the procedures for examination of communications concerning alleged violations of human rights followed by the Organization and that the Board had decided to take note of the Committee's report. He reminded the delegates to the Commission that their duty was to examine item 5.4 of the agenda and the working document relating to it (document 23 C/17) and make whatever recommendations it considered appropriate to the General Conference.

B. Debate

(198) Opening the debate on the item, one delegate stated that through the activities of the Executive Board's Committee on Conventions and Recommendations Unesco was making a laudable contribution to the international protection of human rights. He explained that it was for this reason that his delegation had sponsored a draft resolution which inter alia invited the Director-General to support the Committee in its work and to do everything in his power to make the Organization's human rights procedures more effective. He proposed that the Commission recommend to the General Conference to take note of the report submitted to it

jointly by the Executive Board and the Director-General. Most delegates supported this proposal.

(199) Another delegate stated that, in the view of his delegation, the Organization's procedures for handling communications invoking individual cases of alleged violations of human rights had considerable shortcomings and insufficiencies. He said that an evaluation of the procedure should take into account the principles of sovereign equality of States and of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of States as well as the need for Unesco to pay more attention to cases of gross, massive and systematic violation of human rights within the fields of competence of Unesco. He added that in order to improve Unesco's human rights procedures, it was necessary for the Organization to take advantage of the positive experience of other organs within the United Nations system that are entrusted with the implementation of human rights procedures. This delegate proposed that the Director-General and the Executive Board be requested by the General Conference to undertake a further study of the procedures laid down by 104 EX/Decision 3.3 and to report to it at its twenty-fourth session. Several delegates supported this proposal. Those delegates who preferred only to take note of the report, however, felt that it would be rather too soon for another evaluation exercise to be undertaken in the 1986-1987 biennium.

(200) Many delegates stated that Unesco's human rights procedures as well as the practice and method of work of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations constituted an important tool for the Organization in its action in the field of the protection and promotion of human rights. Attention was drawn in particular to the fact that a communication alleging a violation of human rights in Unesco's fields of competence may be considered by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations without any pre-condition that the State concerned must be a party to a particular international human rights instrument. These delegates pointed out also that the Organization's human rights procedures permitted individuals, groups of individuals and non-governmental organizations to submit cases of alleged violations of human rights for the consideration of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations. A number of delegates declared that this Committee had, in a strictly confidential manner, always sought, through dialogue and mutual explanations with governments concerned by alleged violations of human rights, to achieve friendly and humanitarian solutions to individual cases and problems. These delegates referred to the results obtained by the Committee in this respect and stated that in their view the resources expended financial and

otherwise, were fully justified. The observer of a non-governmental organization stressed the positive and special character of the human rights procedures laid down by 104 EX/Decision 3.3 and urged that they be maintained and strengthened.

(201) Several other delegates stated, however, that in their opinion it was not prudent for the Organization to devote substantial financial resources to dealing with individual cases of alleged violation rights especially at a time when austerity measures are required. They stated that, in any event, Unesco should concern itself more with cases and questions of gross, massive and systematic violations of human rights such as apartheid. Recalling that the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations was originally set up for normative activities namely, to handle the reports of Member States on their implementation of Conventions and Recommendations, these delegates expressed their regret that this important function had been given a second priority by the Committee. It deviated from its original aims by devoting most of its time to the examination of individual human rights communications. One delegate suggested that the Committee should stop altogether examining such communications, while another proposed that only one session a year should be devoted to such examination. Others, however, felt that the expenses undertaken for this purpose were not excessive. One delegate, referring to Article 1 of Unesco's Constitution, stated that there was no basis for limiting the Committee's work to considerations of mass violations of human rights, but that on the contrary its present activities were fully in line with the said article.

(202) Some delegates stated that the examination of human rights complaints by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations politicized the activities of Unesco and also duplicated the work of some other organs of the United Nations system. These delegates furthermore criticized what they considered to be the accusatory character of the procedure applied by the aforesaid Committee, adding that notwithstanding the confidential character of the Committee's procedure, information leakages had sometimes led to propaganda campaigns in newspapers, against certain Member States. The procedure for the examination of individual human rights complaints should be made acceptable to Member States. While acknowledging that the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations did useful work, one delegate stated that in his opinion one sometimes had the impression that the Committee was more interested in

individual complaints than in the question of systematic violations, in the occupied Arab territories and South Africa, of human rights falling within Unesco's fields of competence.

(203) Other delegates stated that far from constituting a duplication, Unesco's human rights procedures laid down by 104 EX/Decision 3.3 do in fact fill a lacuna which existed in the United Nations system as regards the possibilities for an individual or a non-governmental organization to complain about an individual case of alleged violation of human rights. These delegates also pointed out that Member States concerned with allegations of violation of human rights had always understood that they were not to consider themselves as accused before a tribunal but rather as sovereign States co-operating voluntarily with the Organization in searching for humanitarian and friendly solutions to problems which sometimes caused a great deal of human pain and suffering. One delegate, who was also Chairman of the Committee, said that one could not help being moved by this. He underlined the friendly atmosphere and working methods of the Committee, its confidential character and the value of co-operation by concerned Member States. Another delegate stressed that such co-operation was essential if results were to be achieved, and that ways and means should be found to encourage it through appropriate measures. The same delegate stressed the need for clearer definitions concerning admissibility in order to avoid protracted discussion in the Committee.

(204) It was generally agreed within the Commission that the human rights procedures laid down by the Executive Board in 1978 by 104 EX/Decision 3.3 could be improved upon. However, while many delegates were of the view that it would be best that improvements came about by evolution through the practice of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations, some other delegates stated that they would prefer the evaluation exercise to be continued by the Executive Board and the Director-General in the 1986-1987 biennium. One delegate suggested in this connection that when another evaluation of the Unesco human rights procedures is undertaken, it would be useful for Member States to be asked to submit their respective views about possible improvements to the procedures through the use of a questionnaire.

(205) On concluding its discussion of item 5.4, the Commission decided by consensus to recommend for adoption by the General Conference a draft resolution proposed by the Chairman of the Commission (23 C/Resolution 13.2).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.8 - UNESCO'S ROLE IN IMPROVING THE SITUATION OF
YOUNG PEOPLE, AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR

(206) The Commission devoted its eleventh and twelfth meetings to the debate on item 4.8.

A. Presentation of item 4.8

(207) In introducing the debate, the Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences called the attention of delegates to document 23 C/21, prepared in conformity with 22 C/Resolution 22 adopted at the twenty-second session of the General Conference.

(208) The Assistant Director-General stated that the document summarized the numerous activities undertaken by Unesco on the occasion of International Youth Year, in its field of competence. After a brief reminder of Unesco's approach to youth questions, the document analysed the contribution of the various Sectors of the Secretariat and stressed some crucial problems, such as unemployment and drug abuse.

(209) International Youth Year, the Assistant Director-General indicated, had given Unesco the occasion to reinforce its co-operation with the other specialized institutions of the United Nations system, as well as with youth organizations which have been Unesco's active partners. This co-operation will continue and will be strengthened in the follow-up to the Year.

(210) Finally, the Assistant-Director General called the attention of the delegates to the final part of the Director-General's report, dealing with the World Congress on Youth held in Barcelona (Spain) and to the statement adopted at this Congress, the results of which had been positively assessed by most delegates in the debate on youth issues held in plenary meeting on 23 October.

B. Debate

(211) The delegates of nineteen Member States and the representative of one non-governmental organization took the floor in the ensuing debate. Most of the speakers congratulated the Director-General on the quality of the report, which provided extensive information and proved the major role which Unesco plays in the field of youth for the whole United Nations system. A young delegate, however, felt confused by the summary of activities for youth. For example, with reference to certain paragraphs in Major Programme XI, she questioned whether it was a youth programme or a cultural programme adding that the mere addition of the word 'young' did not make a programme a youth programme.

(212) Many speakers expressed their

strong appreciation of Unesco's role in improving the situation of young people and mentioned, in particular, Unesco's valuable contribution to the observance of International Youth Year.

(213) One delegate indicated that, in a resolution presented for adoption to the current fortieth session of the United Nations General Assembly by his country and many other co-sponsors covering all regions of the world, specific reference was made to Unesco's significant role and contribution to the activities undertaken for the observance of International Youth Year and to the World Congress on Youth held in Barcelona.

(214) Several speakers stressed that it was necessary to maintain the momentum gained in the youth domain during International Youth Year, for it would be regrettable for it to cease once 1985 came to a close. Another speaker pointed out that whereas years passed, the problems remained, and the energy expended should serve to shed light on future programmes, especially with a view to preparing the third Medium-Term Plan of Unesco. Several speakers pointed out that the Organization should continue to play a leading role in improving the situation of young people during the follow-up action to International Youth Year.

(215) Delegates from nineteen Member States, in mentioning the quality and significant scope of Unesco's contribution to the Year, considered that its major event was the holding of the World Congress on Youth organized in Barcelona (Spain) from 8 to 15 July 1985. The majority of the delegates who took the floor considered that the Barcelona statement was a reflection of the richness and diversity of points of view and recommendations formulated by the participants who, in the main, were young people. As one delegate put it, the statement was an essential platform for youth programmes. Another delegate felt that one of the constructive contributions of this Congress was that it demonstrated how important the universality of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies was to youth. One delegate, herself a participant at the Barcelona Congress, stated that at the close of the Congress, many delegates were frustrated because of the lack of a clearly defined aim for the Congress, and because the working methods prevented a real exchange of views in the commissions. She observed that a traditional way of running congresses did not stimulate youth to play an active role in Unesco.

(216) Some speakers, mentioning several international meetings organized by Member States during 1985 stressed

especially the successful outcome of the XIIth World Youth and Student Festival held in Moscow. The two speakers regretted that this Festival and particularly Unesco's participation in it as well as in other international meetings was not mentioned in the report of the Director-General.

(217) One speaker drew the attention of the delegates to the considerable contribution made to the Unesco Youth Programme by the Special Committee of the Executive Board in the preparation of document 122 EX/SP/RAP/2 entitled 'A review and assessment of Unesco's intersectoral activities relating to women and youth'. This delegate invited Member States to take note of the recommendations formulated in this document and mentioned, in particular, the invitation addressed to the Director-General '... to continue the strengthening of these activities within available resources and ensuring their intersectoral co-ordination'. Although Unesco's 'available resources' for youth activities were extremely limited, the delegate felt that they were none the less significant because of their catalytic impact.

(218) One delegate commented on the timeliness of the observance of International Youth Year in 1985, which coincided both with the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations and the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. This delegate pointed out that this historical context was a significant framework for promoting reflection and action in the domain of youth, especially with regard to peace.

(219) Stressing the importance of inserting youth in every part of Unesco's programme, one delegate regretted the absence of youth activities from Major Programmes I and XII in document 23 C/21. This delegate emphasized the important role that youth could play in reflecting on solutions to world problems and felt that youth's potential contribution in the struggle against racism and apartheid should not be underestimated.

(220) One speaker considered that it would be undesirable to link youth with one specific Major Programme at Unesco. Another delegate stated that it was essential for Unesco to assume a broader interdisciplinary approach in order better to respond to the moral, psychological, social and cultural parameters of youth problems.

(221) Several speakers, while stressing the importance of maintaining an intersectoral approach, were of the opinion that consideration should be given in the third Medium-Term Plan to the formulation of a major programme on youth.

(222) Referring to the numerical importance of the youth segment of their countries' population, many delegates expressed the need to channel youth's

potential in the national economic, social and cultural development programmes. The need to think of young people as active partners in national and international development was underscored by several delegates. It was mentioned that the provision of opportunities where young people could express their opinions and aspirations was essential and should be supported by Unesco. Because of the lack of appropriate education and employment opportunities, it was stated, many young people were marginalized and as a consequence driven to fear, crime, drug abuse, misery and hunger. Unesco's role in the solution to these problems was, therefore, considered to be of paramount importance and should be given first priority.

(223) Some delegates felt that Unesco should undertake more comparative, interdisciplinary research on youth in order to highlight the diversity of the youth 'problematic' in the contemporary world. To this end, broader co-operation should be established with research centres in all regions of the world; Unesco should seek a role of co-ordination and promotion on youth research so as to ensure the more systematic international co-operation of the specialized institutions concerned. One speaker particularly stressed the need to apprehend better the diversity of youth situations around the world, while outlining the common aspirations.

(224) In the opinion of several speakers, concrete action in favour of youth should be given greater attention than conceptual issues. In this regard, specific attention was drawn to the need to promote action in favour of disadvantaged young people and to the need to entrust more resources to the youth programme to this end. One delegate referred to the in-depth study on intersectoral activities relating to youth carried out by the Special Committee of the Executive Board, stating that there was a deplorable tendency towards a proliferation of meetings intended to raise a consciousness of issues without leading to direct action. Another delegate referred to recommendation 6 of Commission III of the Barcelona Congress which contains proposals on new forms of youth exchanges. Several delegates underlined the importance of youth exchanges and work camps as ways to involve young people.

(225) Two delegates were of the opinion that Unesco needed to promote programmes for youth leaders training and youth exchanges. Others added that action in favour of second generation migrants, and young people's action in favour of the struggle against illiteracy and hunger deserved greater attention by Unesco.

(226) A number of delegates drew attention to drug abuse, which has become a significant scourge among young people all over the world. They

requested Unesco to play a greater role in combating drug use and abuse among young people. In this regard, one delegate expressed his belief that it would be more suitable first to improve the socio-economic situation in Member States as the cause of drug use rather than just to deal with the abstract problem 'youth and drugs'. Another speaker stressed the necessity to ensure co-ordination with other United Nations agencies in this domain of action in order to avoid duplication and dispersion of efforts.

(227) Several delegates recalled that unemployment and under-employment were significantly increasing in most regions and that these affect young people in particular. In this context, they emphasized the role that Unesco should play, in its various fields of competence, towards the solution of these problems. One delegate emphasized education that would be geared to work and that was holistic in content as a possible solution. Several speakers emphasized the right of young people to work.

(228) A number of delegates considered that peace was an essential corner-stone to action for, and by, young people and affirmed their belief that without peace, the other objectives of International Youth Year were meaningless. These delegates considered that Unesco should intensify the role played by young people in the maintenance and reinforcement of peace, international understanding, international cooperation, disarmament, respect for human rights and the rights of people. Another delegate considered that it is more important to make peace rather than to speak about it and that by improving the situation of young people in the world, peace and international understanding would be attained. In addition, a speaker highlighted the importance of youth exchanges to furthering international understanding and friendship.

(229) Speaking about youth and its commitment in favour of peace, one delegate recalled the proposal unanimously formulated at the World Congress on Youth in Barcelona to proclaim a World Day on the Acropolis, symbolizing international co-operation for education, culture and peace.

(230) Many speakers felt that young people should be encouraged to play a greater role in the elaboration and implementation of Unesco's activities. One speaker considered that it was only through their active participation in planning and in decision-making at the national and international levels that real solutions could be found.

(231) In this regard, another delegate proposed that a youth platform be set up where young people could make known their ideas, which are sometimes very different from what is said by adults on youth. It was the opinion of one speaker that adults had a tendency

to remedy the symptoms of youth problems rather than their causes.

(232) Several delegates expressed concern with the need to promote inter-generational dialogue that would, on the one hand, avoid an adult view from dominating Unesco's action, and on the other hand, promote the reflection and reconciliation of youth and adult perspectives in the elaboration of coherent Unesco programmes.

(233) The majority of delegates agreed that more Unesco action should be undertaken not only for youth, but with youth and by youth.

(234) Several delegates congratulated Unesco on the good relationship established with youth organizations and stated that Unesco should improve its work with young people and youth organizations as a continuing process. They stressed the need to reinforce Unesco's collective consultation so as to better associate youth in programmes calling for their active participation. Two delegates emphasized the need for Unesco to co-operate with youth organizations. The collective consultation was a step in the right direction, but, in the eyes of one delegate, did not yet meet with the satisfaction of youth organizations. The Geneva informal meetings with international youth non-governmental organizations were mentioned as an example of co-operation on equal basis with structures built by the youth organizations themselves.

(235) One delegate congratulated Unesco on its achievements to improve public awareness of youth problems and activities. A proposal was advanced by another delegate on the desirability of holding summer youth camps where Unesco's action in solving world problems could be discussed and analysed.

(236) A young representative of the Federation of Unesco Clubs of Bulgaria stated that 26 young members of that organization had followed with interest the debate on youth as well as on other issues of Unesco's programme. This experience, she stated, had been most enriching and permitted to every one to have a much better knowledge of Unesco's action throughout the world.

C. Reply by the representative of the Director-General

(237) The representative of the Director-General welcomed the support given by the speakers to the youth programme in general and to the action undertaken by Unesco during the International Youth Year, and noted with pleasure the satisfaction expressed with the report of the Director-General contained in document 23 C/21. The debate, he stated, had to be considered in conjunction with the debate on youth held in plenary meeting on 23 October, and confirmed the wishes of all Member States to confer a larger role to Unesco's Youth Programme.

(238) To this end, the representative of the Director-General assured the delegates that the Director-General would ensure better intersectoral co-operation, while reinforcing the central unit for promotion and co-ordination.

(239) In reply to the wishes of several delegates that Unesco consider the addition of a major programme on youth in the third Medium-Term Plan, the representative of the Director-General affirmed that consideration will be given by the Director-General to the best solution liable to give the youth programme a better visibility and a stronger impact.

(240) Replying to specific questions on the activities foreseen in the programme, the representative of the Director-General stressed the importance placed on concrete field activities in favour of least privileged youth, on the co-operation with research centres, and on activities dealing with youth exchange and the training of youth leaders. In addition, he stated, the search for peace is a dimension inspiring the whole youth programme.

(241) The representative of the Director-General confirmed the utmost importance that the Director-General places on the establishment of better channels of communication with young people and youth organizations. This will continue to be done through the Unesco annual collective consultation and through co-operation with the National Commissions. He also conveyed the strong desire of the Director-General to have more young delegates attending future sessions of the General Conference and to organize briefing sessions at Unesco Headquarters to better inform them on Unesco programme and procedures.

(242) In conclusion, the representative of the Director-General thanked the delegates, and especially the young delegates and the representatives of youth organizations, for the most substantive and enriching debate. Indeed, the discussion on youth at the present session of the General Conference had been the most important ever held in this field, and would certainly help to place new emphasis on present and future youth programmes, as a follow-up to International Youth Year.

D. Recommendations concerning item 4.8

(243) The Commission then examined four draft resolutions submitted under item 4.8: 23 C/COM.V/DR.3; 23 C/COM.V/DR.5; 23 C/COM.V/DR.6; 23 C/DR.287.

(244) Introducing draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.3, the delegate of Switzerland thanked the Director-General for the information given in his Note, but stated that he nevertheless thought it useful that the Commission submit this draft resolution to the General

Conference for adoption. The Commission then decided by consensus to recommend draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.3 submitted by Switzerland to the General Conference for adoption (23 C/Resolution 26.1).

(245) The delegate of the United Kingdom, presenting draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.5, proposed two amendments in the light of the Note by the Director-General. After some discussion the Commission decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.5, submitted by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Zambia and Venezuela, as modified by the United Kingdom (23 C/Resolution 26.2).

(246) Introducing draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.6, co-sponsored by 27 Member States of all geographical regions, the delegate of Romania requested, on behalf of all the co-sponsors, that the title of the resolution be amended to read as follows: 'Contribution of Unesco to International Youth Year and to the promotion of its objectives for the future'. The representative of the Director-General suggested, in order to conform to the practices of Unesco, the deletion of the reference under paragraph 2(d), be 'Unesco's Youth Division'. The Netherlands delegate, co-sponsor of this draft resolution, explaining that it was believed essential to maintain a central unit for promotion and co-ordination of youth activities, then proposed the following words instead: 'to undertake these activities within a coherent youth policy based on an active intersectoral co-operation, while ensuring a clearly unified management of this policy'. The Commission then decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.6 submitted by Australia, Argentina, Belgium, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Madagascar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Christopher and Nevis, San Marino, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Zimbabwe, as amended by Romania and the Netherlands (23 C/Resolution 26.4).

(247) Referring to paragraph 2(g) of the text, the delegate of the United Kingdom stated that while his country accepted the Barcelona statement, it doubted the wisdom of certain recommendations formulated in the Final Report of the World Congress on Youth, and consequently the value of disseminating the report as stated in that paragraph.

(248) The Commission decided by consensus to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of 23 C/DR.287 submitted by Senegal, Ivory Coast, Central African Republic, Mali, Madagascar, Gambia, Burundi, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau and Gabon (23 C/Resolution 26.3).

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.9 - IMPLEMENTATION OF 22 C/RESOLUTION 23, CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES

(249) The Chairman introduced item 4.9 and drew the Commission's attention to the report of the Director-General (document 23 C/22 and its two addenda) as well as to draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev. submitted to it for consideration.

(250) The representative of the Director-General introduced document 23 C/22 - Implementation of 22 C/Resolution 23 concerning educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories: report of the Director-General - and its addenda (23 C/22 Add.1 and Add.2), submitted to the General Conference pursuant to 22 C/Resolution 23. These documents give an account of the measures taken by the Director-General with a view to implementing 22 C/Resolution 23 and of various factors that have affected the situation with respect to educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories, as reported in the communications received by the Director-General.

(251) The representative of the Director-General referred to Annex 2 which contained the text of decision 5.1.3 adopted by the Executive Board at its 121st session, in which it invited the Director-General 'to appoint a mission of academics with responsibility for conducting a comprehensive study of the conditions in which academic freedoms are guaranteed and exercised in the occupied Arab territories, the said mission to gather the necessary information in the occupied territories, bear testimony at the Headquarters of the Organization and prepare a report to be submitted when completed, to the Executive Board for consideration at a future session'.

(252) The representative of the Director-General explained the measures taken by the Director-General with a view to implementing 22 C/Resolution 23 and the communications on the subject that had been brought to his notice since the twenty-second session of the General Conference. The report of the Director-General referred to the closure, on the one hand, of the universities of Bir Zeit, Bethlehem and Al-Najah and, on the other, of some of the UNRWA-Unesco schools and centres, in the occupied Arab territories. Finally, the representative of the Director-General drew the attention of the Commission to an error in paragraph 3 of the English version of document 23 C/22 Add.1, where '8 August 1984' should read '8 August 1985'.

(253) Eleven delegates and an observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization took the floor during the discussion of this item of the agenda. The delegate of Greece, speaking on behalf of the 12 co-sponsors of draft

resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev. stated that the question of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories had, for many years, been the subject of debate in the General Conference. He informed the Commission that the draft resolution was in fact very similar to Executive Board decision 5.1.3 which had been unanimously adopted at the Board's 121st session. The text of the draft resolution conveyed the whole range of feeling of all the Member States represented in the Executive Board, and was considered by all to be moderate and well-balanced. At the same time, this text reflected the factual situation in the occupied Arab territories. He explained that his country had joined the other co-sponsors in presenting this draft resolution because of the above consideration and believed that the General Conference should adopt it. He proposed two amendments to the draft resolution, in paragraphs 7 and 11. He concluded by expressing the hope that this draft resolution would be approved, as in the Executive Board, by consensus.

(254) The observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization referred to a report dated 2 April 1985 on violations of human rights in the occupied territories prepared by a joint Arab-American committee and submitted to the United States State Department. The report contained the following elements of information: 103 schools and universities were closed by the Israeli occupying authorities for different periods during 1983-1984; 92 students were dismissed, 58 of whom had been enrolled in Abu-Dis Science Faculty; 316 were arrested; student demonstrations were fired on, injuring 15 and killing three; 36 students were prohibited from taking their secondary-school leaving certificate examinations; 10 university professors and schoolteachers were dismissed; the science library in Gaza was closed for six months; the theatre group 'Al-Hakawati' was prohibited from performing in the occupied territories; 27 paintings and 35 literary works were confiscated, thus increasing the number of titles prohibited from circulation in the libraries and universities to 5,035; a 30 per cent tax was imposed on financial aid received by the universities from abroad; annual permits were issued to members of the teaching profession restricting their place and type of work, the permits being subject to withdrawal at any moment by the military government; Palestinian universities were not exempt from customs duties as was the case with the Israeli universities; extension and building permits to the universities of Bir Zeit and Al-Najah were rejected; and temporary residence permits were refused to 75

visiting professors. The observer added that the present intake of the universities in the occupied territories was limited to 40 per cent of the students successfully completing their secondary education.

(255) A delegate speaking on behalf of the Arab States explained that the draft resolution before the Commission was intended to enable the Director-General to carry out the tasks entrusted to him by 22 C/Resolution 23 and which would - it was hoped - permit the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories to enjoy their educational and cultural rights proclaimed in international declarations and law, and confirmed by the decisions of the United Nations and Unesco. He stated that the documents constituting the report of the Director-General clearly indicated that the arrest of teachers and students without bringing them to trial and the closure of educational institutions by military order were continuing. The confiscation of textbooks and the changes imposed on the curricula by the military authorities aimed at the domination of the inhabitants of these territories. Drawing the Commission's attention to a communication from the Israeli Permanent Delegate dated 9 April 1984 in which it was stated that no university institution existed prior to 1967, explained that prior to the Israeli occupation students could and did enrol in the universities on the East Bank of Jordan and in the other Arab countries, and that it was only as a result of the restrictions on movements by the Israeli occupation that the need for university institutions in the West Bank emerged. He expressed the hope that the draft resolution, once adopted, would enable the Director-General to appoint a personal representative to supervise the functioning of educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories as was done in respect to the city of Jerusalem by Professor Lemaire.

(256) Stating that this question was not being discussed for the first time by the General Conference, another delegate said that the matter under discussion concerned the rights of people whose lands were taken and whose identity was usurped. The cultural heritage of the Palestinian people, which had evolved over the centuries since the dawn of history and whose city of Jerusalem had witnessed the passage of the prophets of the divine faiths, cannot be subjugated by occupation, and the violations committed in the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories have far exceeded what other peoples have suffered. He called upon the occupying authorities to respect and implement the decisions of the United Nations and Unesco and to withdraw in response to world public opinion and thus make it possible for peace to prevail in the area. In spite of UNRWA's difficulties in providing

educational services to the children of the occupied Arab countries, he said that the occupying authorities were diminishing these restricted facilities by closing schools under the pretext of maintaining security and public order. He indicated that the report submitted by the Director-General to the 121st session of the Executive Board clearly demonstrated the violations committed by the occupying authorities and the extremist groups. He stated that the draft resolution which he co-sponsored was the minimum that the world conscience could accept.

(257) Another delegate, speaking on behalf of electoral group II, stated that despite its previous condemnations Israel continued to pursue its policy of genocide, destroying cultural and religious values, depriving the Arabs of choosing their own destiny. He evoked the destruction of the Sidon and Tyre museums, the temples of Venus and Jupiter and the Ommayyad monuments as a result of Israeli air raids, while the Arab University of Beirut now lay in ruins. He said that the building of the Unesco Regional Office in Beirut had also suffered seriously. He asked the question as to why Israel continued to ignore United Nations decisions and resolutions and proffered the answer that as an occupying power operating with the moral and material support of one of the major powers it felt immune from any censure and continued to act in this aggressive manner. He believed that the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories should feel that they had the support of the international community; since Unesco was the conscience of mankind, the General Conference must raise its voice in defence of oppressed peoples. He appealed to all Member States to use their prestige and influence to bring an end to the Israeli occupation.

(258) Another delegate conveyed his country's indignation at Israel's persistent refusal to accept General Conference resolutions, thus preventing the educational institutions in the occupied Arab territories from functioning normally. He felt that by this manner of behaviour Israel was trampling on the Charter of the United Nations and the Constitution of Unesco. He promised his country's help to the Palestinian people and hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted unanimously.

(259) Another speaker stated that the continued violations by brute force of the educational and cultural institutions in the occupied Arab territories should cease, and believed that Israel was attempting to impose a biased education on these institutions to serve its own interests. He reminded the Commission that the pupils and students in the occupied Arab territories had basic rights which they were entitled to enjoy and that this could only happen if Israel stopped violating these rights.

As co-sponsor of the draft resolution he called upon the Commission to adopt it unanimously.

(260) Taking the floor on behalf of the Member States of the European Community, as well as Spain and Portugal, another delegate indicated that the 12 countries he was speaking for were united in their approach to the agenda item under discussion and intended to join in a consensus vote in favour of draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev., which he considered to be moderate and realistic. He appreciated highly the ready co-operation of the initiators of this draft resolution with a view to avoiding politicization at the General Conference.

(261) The delegate of Israel criticized the continuing discussion of this item within Unesco and characterized it as an integral part of the Arab political warfare against Israel. He believed that there was no beneficiary from these efforts, and the biggest loser was Unesco itself, because it was being systematically over-politicized. The documents before the Commission and the speeches delivered in it created a completely distorted picture of the situation and functioning of the educational and cultural institutions in 'Judea', 'Samaria' and the 'Gaza district'. The constant increase in the number of such institutions contradicted the claims that Israel tried so hard 'to efface the cultural identity of the Palestinian people' (22 C/Resolution 23). He informed the Commission that his country supported constructive initiatives by the inhabitants and encouraged local development projects. He insisted that while attempting to improve the quality of life of the population as a whole, his authorities were determined to ensure security and public order. He declared that terrorist organizations, through murder, intimidation and hostile propaganda, were attempting to obstruct the efforts of the local population and of his Government. He informed the Commission that school enrolment now stood at 450,000 representing an increase of 104 per cent since 1967, while the population growth rate was only 28 per cent, and added that the results of matriculation examinations composed in accordance with Jordanian and Egyptian criteria were higher than those in Jordan. He made a distinction between a handful of terrorists and the rest of the population and said that 25,000 local people were entrusted with administering the educational system in the territories and worked for preserving their cultural identity.

(262) The delegate of Israel further referred to the five universities created since 1967, which now had an enrolment of around 12,000 students, while 15 other institutions of higher learning had an enrolment of 5,000 students. He insisted that his authorities intervened in these institutions only when security

was in danger inside or outside the campuses. He declared that during the last few years the universities had been exploited by the various terrorist organizations as centres of subversion. The students' councils and the workers' unions had come into conflict as a result of shifts of power amongst the various PLO factions and other terrorist groups. He referred to incidents which had occurred at Bir Zeit University and the UNRWA Vocational Training Centre in Gaza, which led to the closure of these institutions by their own authorities. He asked whether UNRWA would also be accused of violating academic freedoms. He declared that draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev. was unacceptable to his delegation and requested a vote to be taken on it.

(263) Another delegate felt that if, as the previous speaker had claimed, universities were becoming hotbeds of terrorist activities, then Israel's universities should also be shut down, while another speaker believed that the intervention made by the Israeli authorities was proof of the dual policy practised by them, where speeches in international forums conveyed a message that was the antithesis of what they practised. He expressed his surprise that mention was made of terrorism when the government of the occupying authorities carried out air strikes on Iraq, Lebanon and Tunisia, contrary to all accepted norms of international behaviour and when its rulers were famous heads of terrorist organizations which committed horrible crimes well known to the whole world.

(264) The observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization requested and was granted the right of reply, after which the Chairman put to the vote draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev., as amended. The Commission then recommended by 69 votes in favour, one against and four abstentions that the General Conference adopt draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev. submitted by Algeria, Kuwait, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Greece, Sudan, Egypt, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Iraq, China, Mauritania and Jordan, as amended by one of the co-sponsors (23 C/Resolution 27). The delegate of Canada explained that his consent to the draft resolution did not imply Canadian endorsement of all resolutions mentioned in paragraph 7, some of which Canada had not voted for. The delegate of Sweden, speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries, made a similar point and added that he understood paragraph 9 as relating only to measures actually covered by the two conventions mentioned in the paragraph. He also stated that the five countries accepted the resolution because they saw it as oriented towards ensuring the appropriate performance of educational bodies and normal functioning of cultural institutions and not as a political instrument.

Programme Commissions

(265) Subsequently, the delegation of Venezuela submitted the following communication to the Chairman of the Commission in order to rectify Venezuela's vote on item 4.9: 'In conformity with the position adopted by

Venezuela at the United Nations General Assembly, we wish Venezuela's vote in favour of draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.4 Rev., as amended, to be placed on record in the report of Commission V'.

EXAMINATION OF ITEM 4.15 - THE CONTINUED IRANIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST THE EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS AND THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE REPUBLIC OF IRAQ, AND OF ITEM 4.16 - CONTINUING VIOLENCE AGAINST THE EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS, THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT AND THE HISTORIC AND CULTURAL SITES AND MONUMENTS OF IRAN

(266) These two items were introduced jointly by the Chairman of the Commission, who underlined the seriousness of the issues involved. He referred to the documents submitted under both item 4.15 (document 23 C/89 entitled 'Communications from the Government of Iraq concerning item 4.15 of the provisional agenda of the General Conference' and draft resolution 23 C/COM.V/DR.1 Rev. submitted by Iraq) and item 4.16 (draft resolutions 23 C/COM.V/DR.7 and 23 C/COM.V/DR.10 submitted by the Islamic Republic of Iran).

(267) Recalling the spirit of co-operation, understanding and fraternity which characterized the work of the General Conference and the immense effort at mutual conciliation being made by all delegations, the Chairman underlined how important it was for Unesco, in the present circumstances, that this general climate be preserved with respect to each and every item on the agenda of the conference. He had therefore taken the initiative of requesting the two delegations concerned to withdraw their draft resolutions. He was glad to inform the Commission that the two delegations

had indeed agreed to withdraw these draft resolutions and expressed his sincere gratitude and appreciation to the representatives of the two countries. Because of this, he also felt that a debate on these two items was no longer necessary. He invited all the members of the Commission to refrain from taking the floor on the subject. He suggested instead, that given the extremely serious situation to which these items referred, he would be prepared, if the Commission agreed, to draft an appeal to the two belligerent countries which the Commission could recommend to the General Conference for adoption, naturally with the agreement of the two Member States involved. The Commission accepted the Chairman's proposal and it was agreed that the Commission would examine his draft appeal at a later meeting.

(268) At its sixteenth meeting, the Commission decided by acclamation to recommend to the General Conference for adoption the text of this appeal as contained in 23 C/COM.V/DR.11 submitted by the Chairman of Commission V (23 C/Resolution 28).

ANNEX ICOMMUNICATIONS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COMMISSION V
ON ITEM 3.5 - DISCUSSION UNIT 19

A

Sofia, 30 October 1985

Dear Director-General,

I have the honour of bringing to your attention the consensus that the Working Group of Commission V has reached in formulating an amended version of the resolution you proposed for Major Programme XIII.

I have also undertaken to ask you to take note of an amended version of paragraph 13115 of the work plan (23 C/5, Volume II), enclosed.

Yours sincerely,

Iba Der Thiam
Chairman of Commission V
Twenty-third session of the General Conference

Mr Amadou Mahtar-M'Bow
Director-General of Unesco

13115 1. Study of the causes and consequences of the arms race and of its effect in Unesco's fields of competence (SHS/HRS)

- (a) In collaboration with the United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and in co-operation with the International Social Science Council, the National Commissions and the non-governmental organizations, preparation of a comprehensive survey of research in the social and human sciences, already carried out or in progress, both within the United Nations system and by international, regional or national institutions, to investigate, in the fields of education, science, culture and communication, all of the activities which are carried out in the field of disarmament, including those relating to the causes and consequences of the arms race and the relationship between peace, security, development and disarmament, and a directory of the institutions, including institutions of the United Nations system, which conduct research on all disarmament questions as defined above, together with a bibliography of the studies completed or currently being carried out by these institutions. Unesco will also examine in collaboration with the United Nations Department of Disarmament Affairs and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and in consultation with the National Commissions and the non-governmental organizations, procedures making it possible to use Unesco's information media for the more effective dissemination of the studies and information relating to disarmament emanating from the competent bodies of the United Nations system.

\$7,500

Sofia, 31 October 1985

Dear Director-General,

The Working Group established within Commission V on the proposed resolution for Major Programme XIII has produced by consensus a formulation for Unesco's work relating to the rights of peoples.

Accordingly, I would ask you to take account of this formulation in the preparation of the Approved Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (23 C/5 Approved). Please find enclosed a proposal to this effect, amending paragraphs 13203 (third subparagraph), 13204 (second subparagraph) and 13207 (title and subparagraph (a)) of the work plan for Major Programme XIII.

Yours sincerely,

Iba Der Thiam
Chairman of Commission V
Twenty-third session of the General Conference

Mr Amadou Mahtar-M'Bow
Director-General of Unesco

SUBPROGRAMME XIII.2.1

REFLECTION ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS

Unit responsible: Social and Human Sciences Sector

Regular Programme for 1986-1987: \$281,500 13202

Targets 13203

- To encourage exchanges of information among national, regional and international institutions and bodies specializing in work on human rights.
- To promote research capabilities in the social and human sciences in these areas.
- To contribute to reflection on human rights and to the elucidation and better understanding of the concept of rights of peoples and to clarify the relationship between rights of peoples and human rights as they are defined in existing universal international instruments.

Expected results 13204

- Improved understanding and observance of human rights, as set out in three existing international instruments of universal scope (Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights).
- Further elucidation and better understanding of the concept of rights of peoples and clarification of the relationship between rights of peoples and human rights as they are defined in existing universal international instruments.
- Better knowledge of regional instruments such as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.
- Preparation of conspectuses of the work carried out on human rights by national, regional or international institutions for research in the social and human sciences.

Proposed actions

1.	<u>Promotion of the capabilities for research in the social and human sciences concerning human rights and the causes of their violations in Unesco's fields of competence (SHS/HRS)</u>	13205
**	Intellectual and financial support to research institutions and professional international, regional and subregional non-governmental organizations (such as the International Sociological Association) for research in the social and human sciences on human rights and the causes of their violation, in Unesco's fields of competence.	\$59,600
2.	<u>Exchanges among institutions of information concerning human rights in education, culture, science and communication (SHS/HRS)</u>	13206
**	Feasibility study of a newsletter for the exchange of information among scientific and university institutions or national, regional and international bodies specializing in work on human rights, in the fields of education, culture, science and communication, in co-operation with the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, the United Nations Sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, and the United Nations Centre for Human Rights.	\$11,000
3.	<u>Elucidation and better understanding of the concept of rights of peoples and clarification of the relationship between rights of peoples and human rights as they are defined in existing universal international instruments (SHS/HRS)</u>	13207
(a)	Organization of an international symposium (category VIII) on this subject in co-operation with the International Social Science Council, the International Council for Philosophy and Humanistic Studies, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and the Hague Academy of International Law, with due regard for the opinions and recommendations of the Panel of Counsellors on Major Programme XIII, meeting in 1985 pursuant to 120 EX/Decision 4.1 (special attention being given to the contribution of regional instruments such as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights).	\$30,000
(b)	Preparation of an interim report on the studies conducted in 1984-1985 on the issues bound up with the rights of peoples (cf. 22 C/5 Approved, paragraphs 13214, 13216).	\$10,000
	Total, Action 3	\$40,000

II. Report of the Administrative Commission

Introduction

Part I - Item 2.3 - Report by the Executive Board on its own activities in 1984-1985, including the reform process

Part II - Item 3 - Consideration of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987

Item 14.2 - Report of the Director-General on the budgetary situation of the Organization in 1985

Item 14.3 - Establishment of an account for financing end of service and termination indemnities

Part III - Item 8 - Methods of work of the Organization

Part IV - Item 9 - Financial questions

Item 10 - Staff questions

Item 11 - Headquarters questions

INTRODUCTION

(1) The Administrative Commission elected its Chairman by acclamation at its first meeting and its four Vice-Chairmen and its Rapporteur, also by acclamation, at its second meeting. The Commission's officers were as follows: Chairman: Mr Youri N. Kochubey (Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic); Vice-Chairmen: Mr H. Prados (Argentina), Mr G.V. Rao (India), Mr J.F. Loung (Cameroon), Mr Ibrahim A. Al Chaddi (Saudi Arabia); Rapporteur: Mr L. Fisher (Australia).

(2) The Commission then went on to adopt its work plan and draft timetable

as contained in document 23 C/2 and 23 C/ADM/1.

(3) In accordance with standard practice, the present report includes only those parts of the discussions which have a direct bearing on the decisions of the Commission. The names of delegations are mentioned only if members submitted proposals on which the Commission had to take decisions or if delegates expressly requested that the names of their countries be mentioned in connection with statements which they wished to have recorded in the report of the Commission.

PART I

ITEM 2.3 - REPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON ITS OWN ACTIVITIES IN 1984-1985, INCLUDING THE REFORM PROCESS

Report on the discussion of paragraphs 3 and 4 of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 (Part III) the text of which is reproduced in document 23 C/93

(4) The Chairman called the attention of the Commission to document 23 C/93 which contained a decision adopted by the Executive Board at its 122nd session (Decision 5.1.1, Part III). He informed the Commission that the General Conference on the recommendation of the General Committee had referred the questions raised under paragraphs 3 and 4 of the operative part of the decision to the Administrative Commission for examination, specifying that this examination should be limited to the strictly administrative and financial aspects of those questions as well as to their impact on staff questions, to the exclusion of any other aspect (23 C/ADM/4). The Chairman indicated that the Commission would have at its disposal all the documents necessary for its work, and referred in particular to the statements made by the Chairman of the Executive Board and the Director-General in their introduction to the general policy debate (documents 23 C/INF.18 and 23 C/INF.19).

(5) The first speaker expressed concern at the implications and possible consequences of the questions under examination. He stressed the international responsibilities of staff members of the Organization and referred to Article VI.5 of the Constitution which provides that they shall accept no instructions from any authority external to the Organization. Their commitment was to Unesco and not to the government of the country of which they were nationals, and they ought not to suffer the consequences of a decision by that government to withdraw from the Organization. The delegate agreed that, under

Staff Rule 104.2, nationals of a former Member State which had withdrawn from the Organization should normally not be recruited. But the position of those who had been appointed while their country was a member of Unesco was entirely different. To separate them on the grounds of their nationality would be contrary to the principle of universality. It would have a negative effect on staff morale and would be an act of discrimination.

(6) On the basis of these considerations, the speaker agreed with the reaffirmation, in paragraph 3, subparagraphs (a) and (b) of the Executive Board's decision, of the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the provisions of Staff Rule 104.2. Turning to the questions raised in paragraph 4, he considered:

(a) with reference to subparagraph (a), that when a Member State withdraws from the Organization, the fixed-term contracts of staff members who are nationals of that State should nevertheless be renewed, so long as they remained loyal to the Organization and continued to fulfil their duties competently and efficiently; and

(b) with reference to subparagraph (b), that if a reduction of staff is decided on, the situation of nationals of States that are not members of the Organization should be examined on a footing of equality with all other staff members, on the exclusive basis of competence and loyalty to the Organization.

(7) The delegate called upon the Commission to consider very carefully the impact which its decision would have on the universal character of the Organization. He recalled the appeal that the Executive Board had addressed to the United States of America calling upon it to renew its membership of Unesco, and

hoped that this appeal would be heard sooner or later; at such time, new problems would be created for the Organization if most United States nationals on the staff had meanwhile been separated.

(8) The following speaker underlined the terms of reference of the Commission limiting its mandate to administrative and financial questions. In order to keep within those limits, he wished to dispel a number of mistaken ideas which were at the basis of certain positions taken on the problem under discussion, amongst others by the previous speaker. Firstly, the question under consideration was not that of the separation of United States citizens, but of the measures that must be taken in facing a situation created by the withdrawal of any Member State. It was true that the administrative and financial questions that must be tackled arose in a political context, of which neither the remaining Member States nor staff members of a certain nationality bear the responsibility. Neither the Constitution, nor the Staff Regulations and Rules contained express provisions dealing with such a situation. Since the texts were silent on the question, it was necessary for the General Conference to adopt a clear position for the Director-General's guidance. The number and level of responsibilities of the staff members concerned could not fail to have an important impact on the work of the Secretariat. Referring to the previous intervention, the speaker pointed out that the principle of universality was primarily applicable not at the Secretariat level but in the membership of the Organization, and that it was the withdrawal of a Member State which had infringed that principle. However, the question under consideration did not concern that principle, nor did it concern the purely international character of Unesco officials. In that connection, the speaker said that one could hardly ignore the nationality of an international civil servant since all Member States had accepted the need for an equitable geographical distribution. He wondered whether a State which levies income tax on the salaries paid to its citizens by international organizations could be said to recognize the international status of those officials.

(9) The same delegate expressed the view that, in examining the questions under discussion, two essential priorities must be borne in mind: the need to ensure the continued functioning of the Organization, and the need to respect the legitimate contractual rights of all staff members. Considering the problem in that light, it appeared that paragraph 3 of the Executive Board's decision merely reiterated provisions of the Constitution and Staff Regulations which, although they were hardly contested, were worth recalling. As for the question raised in paragraph 4(a) of the decision, the speaker referred to Staff

Rule 104.6 which provided that a fixed-term appointment did not carry any expectation of, nor imply any right to, its extension or conversion into an indeterminate appointment. He therefore thought that such appointments held by nationals of a State which had withdrawn from the Organization should normally not be extended, although the Director-General would retain discretionary authority to decide on such an extension in exceptional circumstances where he considered it to be in the Organization's interest. As for the question under paragraph 4(b), he thought that, in case of equal competence, any reduction of staff should first of all affect nationals of States that are not members of the Organization. The staff member's nationality would thus serve as a secondary criterion after that of competence. The speaker said that he was not insensitive to the human aspects of the question under discussion. These aspects could, however, not affect the positions to be taken when examining general principles, but would be considered by the Director-General in exercising his discretionary authority in each individual case.

(10) Another delegate said that the question before the Commission must be examined not in a spirit of confrontation or vengeance against a former Member State which had withdrawn from the Organization, but with a view to giving clear guidelines to the Director-General, who at the same time should be left with a large degree of discretion and flexibility. The principle of equitable geographical distribution was not in contradiction with the requirements of integrity, competence and efficiency. Turning to the paragraphs in document 23 C/93 under discussion, the speaker noted that paragraph 3 was a mere reiteration of principles contained in the Constitution and Staff Rules and were therefore unobjectionable. The questions in paragraph 4 must be answered in a spirit of fairness to serving staff, but with the interests of the Organization taking precedence. Concerning the question under subparagraph (a), the delegate considered that the extension of a fixed-term appointment must be decided by the Director-General in the exercise of his discretion and that he should have a sufficient degree of flexibility in the examination of individual cases. The element of geographical distribution should, in his view, be taken into account and a rule to that effect ought to be introduced for the future. At present, the individual merits of the staff member whose appointment was on the point of expiring should not be the only consideration in envisaging its renewal, but the possibility of using the post for the assignment of staff from other regions should also be taken into account. As for the question in subparagraph (b), the speaker thought that, subject to fairness, equity and respect

for a staff member's legitimate rights, reductions in staff should affect first of all nationals of States that were not members of the Organization.

(11) Several members of the Commission found themselves in broad agreement with the views expressed by the delegates whose interventions are summed up in paragraphs 4 to 6 above. Two of them pointed out that to adopt a different position would constitute an encouragement to certain Member States to leave the Organization while continuing to enjoy the privilege of having their nationals represented in the Secretariat. Several speakers agreed with that remark and added that a paradox would arise if the nationals of countries remaining in the Organization had to be separated because a number of countries had withdrawn from the Organization, their nationals being nevertheless maintained in service and paid out of funds provided by the remaining Member States. One delegate pointed out that a Member State which withdrew from the Organization must bear the responsibility for the situation of its own nationals in the Secretariat, and suggested that Unesco might embark on negotiations with the United States with a view to the re-employment of United States citizens in their home country. Another said that humanitarian considerations could not prevail at the expense of others. He had not heard any delegation proposing that its own nationals should be separated in preference to those who were nationals of the State which had withdrawn from the Organization.

(12) Another delegate insisted on the terms of Staff Rule 104.6 (b), which clearly provided that a fixed-term appointment did not carry any expectation of, nor imply any right to, its extension. In the face of such unequivocal language, he failed to see how it could be argued that the holders of such appointments should, after a certain period of service, be deemed to be in a situation similar to that of the holders of indeterminate appointments. The speaker requested that he be provided with an opinion on this matter, if possible in writing, by the Legal Adviser.

(13) Several other delegates, while agreeing with the general ideas expressed by previous speakers and with the answers they had proposed to the questions raised in paragraph 4 of document 23 C/93, suggested that the answer to subparagraph (a) should be somewhat qualified. Some of them thought that fixed-term appointments held by nationals of a State which had withdrawn from the Organization might be renewed only if no suitable candidate who was a national of a Member State could be found to fill the position. Others considered that, upon the expiry of the appointment held by a national of a State which had withdrawn from the Organization, the post should be advertised

and, if a better candidate who was a national of a Member State could be found, the appointment of the outgoing incumbent should not be extended.

(14) One delegate, with whom several others concurred, said that the Organization found itself in an unusual situation which called for unusual measures. The financial consequences of the withdrawal of a State which had paid the highest contribution to the budget could not be ignored. Nevertheless, the Organization must continue to function despite the withdrawal of one or more Member States aimed at undermining its activity. The speaker had no difficulty in approving paragraph 3(a) and (b) of document 23 C/93, which usefully reiterated the relevant provisions of the Constitution and of the Staff Rules. As for paragraph 4(a), the delegate pointed out that the non-renewal of a fixed-term appointment was a natural consequence of the nature of such a contract. He said that hundreds of staff members had left the Secretariat during the last five or six years upon expiry of their fixed-term appointments. It therefore seemed clear to him that the appointments held by nationals of a State which had withdrawn from the Organization ought not to be extended. Concerning paragraph 4(b), he felt that the nationals of States which have ceased to be Members of the Organization ought to be the first to be affected by any staff reductions. The withdrawal of the United States was a political act which called for a political reaction in Unesco's defence. In addition, the speaker thought that the system of contracts should be simplified and the proportion of indeterminate appointments reduced.

(15) One delegate said that, in approaching the question posed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of document 23 C/93, the principal objective of the General Conference should be to restore the universal character of the Organization. If this universality had been lost in the composition of the Member States, it should at least be preserved in the Secretariat. The speaker warned against too rigid an application of the principle of geographical distribution, lest it result in what he called 'pockets of inefficiency' in the Secretariat. The overriding considerations of integrity, competence and efficiency must prevail over the secondary requirement of geographical distribution. Referring to a point made by a previous speaker concerning the fact that the United States did not exempt its citizens working in international secretariats from income tax, he said this argument would not apply to other Member States which might leave the Organization. Concerning the extension of fixed-term appointments, the speaker criticized the practice of keeping a majority of staff under fixed-term contracts which were renewed from two years to two years and suggested that all officials having completed 10

years of service should be granted indeterminate appointments. If this had been done, the question under paragraph 4(a) would be practically of no real consequence. He thought that the problem of staff reduction should be dealt with on the basis of such widely accepted principles as 'last in - first out', which would also reduce the financial implications of separating staff. Turning to the two paragraphs in document 23 C/93 under discussion, the delegate was of the opinion that:

(a) paragraph 3(a) should be reworded to contain the full text of Article VI.4 of the Constitution, stressing the paramount considerations of integrity, competence and efficiency so that the emphasis and balance in the Constitution would not be disturbed;

(b) paragraph 3 (b) was acceptable as it was drafted;

(c) with reference to paragraph 4 (a), staff members with 10 years or more of service should be treated as if they were the holders of indeterminate appointments, the other cases being dealt with on the basis of competence and loyalty to the Organization;

(d) his answer to the question in paragraph 4(b) would be negative since he could not accept that staff members could be affected by decisions or acts of governments.

(16) Another delegate stressed the bilateral contractual relationship between the Organization and each of its staff members, to which the State of which he or she happened to be a national was not a party. He wondered whether it was correct to say that the Constitution as well as the Staff Regulations and Rules were silent on the questions posed in paragraph 4 of document 23 C/93. He thought that there were certain provisions and precedents to which one could refer. What was new was not the problem itself, but its dimensions. The speaker considered the statements in both subparagraphs of paragraph 3 to be acceptable and in line with previous decisions of the Executive Board provided that 3(a) was redrafted to reflect the Constitution. The question in paragraph 4(a) must, in his view, be answered in the affirmative in order to respect the legitimate rights of staff members. The Organization was bound to observe the jurisprudence of the Administrative Tribunals which considered that, after a lengthy period of service, a fixed-term appointment might be assimilated to an indeterminate one. Otherwise Unesco would expose itself to a series of successful appeals against its own decisions. As for paragraph 4(b) the speaker recalled that international officials owed no allegiance to the States of which they were nationals, but only to the organizations employing them, a principle which had been recognized by the International Court of Justice. The General Conference could not take decisions contrary to the law. The hypothesis of 'equal

competence' in that paragraph was hardly realistic. To answer the question in paragraph 4(b) in the affirmative would amount to introducing nationality as a new criterion in personnel decisions, and one which would strike a blow at the very concept of an international civil service.

(17) Another member of the Commission stated that administration must be based on rules and precedents. The legal aspects of the questions posed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of document 23 C/93 must not be ignored. The delegate agreed with a previous speaker that paragraph 3(a) should be reworded to reflect the full text of Article VI.4 of the Constitution. He thought that paragraph 3(b) was unnecessary since it merely reiterated the terms of Staff Rule 104.2, which did not entirely rule out the possibility of recruiting persons who were not nationals of a Member State. Turning to paragraph 4 the speaker recalled that staff members were prohibited from accepting instructions from the authorities of the State of which they were nationals and that, moreover, the Member States of the Organization had undertaken to respect their independence. Having recruited the staff on the basis of such provisions, they should not be penalized for an action taken by a government or be affected by what the speaker called the whims and caprices of individual Member States. He recalled the precedent of the International Labour Organisation, where no particular measures had been applied to United States citizens when that country withdrew from the Organization.

(18) Referring to the statement of a previous speaker, the delegate warned that, no matter what was said within the walls of the General Conference, the public at large would not fail to see an act of vengeance against the United States in any decision to separate United States citizens on the grounds of their nationality. He felt certain that any such decision would not be upheld by the Administrative Tribunal and the Organization would have to pay millions of dollars in compensation. The requirements of geographical distribution should be taken account of at the recruitment stage and not thereafter. The delegate therefore considered that the answer to the question in paragraph 4(b) must be negative. He warmly supported the position repeatedly expressed by the Director-General regarding the maintenance in the Secretariat of United States nationals. Any staff reductions should be effected, in consultation with staff representatives, on a 'last in - first out' basis, where posts were interchangeable as in certain clerical grades; essentiality of posts in respect of competence and delivery of programmes, as well as priority being given to women for retention in the staff, as the numbers of women were disproportionately small.

(19) Several members of the Commission supported the statements summed up in paragraphs 11 to 14 above. Many of them supported the Director-General's position on the question under consideration, as stated in document 23 C/53 as well as in the Director-General's introductory statement to the general policy debate. One speaker referred to the statement made by the leader of his delegation during the general policy debate, stressing the principles underlying the international civil service. Others referred to the complex and delicate nature of the problem under consideration and urged the Commission to exercise great care in its examination. One delegate wondered what would be the cost to Unesco of separating most if not all United States citizens whose fixed-term appointments were about to expire and who, although no termination indemnity would be payable, would be entitled to substantial repatriation grants, compensation for accumulated annual leave and repatriation travel. He did not have precise figures but, according to his own rough estimates, the expenditure would be considerable. Another speaker warned against establishing a new precedent by making nationality a criterion for separation. One member expressed the view that paragraphs 4(a) and (b) suggested measures for which there was no provision in the Constitution or the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, since the sole criteria when considering terminations were competence, efficiency, integrity and seniority. Even if it were decided to amend the existing Regulations, such amendment would be subject to the maintenance of the acquired rights of serving staff members (in accordance with Staff Regulation 12.1).

(20) Some delegates whose statements are referred to in paragraph 15 above firmly opposed any change in the status quo concerning the Regulations of Unesco and the guiding principles of the international civil service. They appealed to the Commission to avoid any decision which would result in the introduction of nationality as a criterion for dismissal of staff. In their view, this matter was one of the highest political importance, and the outcome of the present debate would weigh heavily in their government's evaluation of this session of the General Conference. One delegate referred to the emphasis placed by Article VI.4 of the Constitution on the 'paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of integrity, efficiency and technical competence', which he placed on a higher level than considerations of nationality.

(21) One delegate, referring to the statement summarized in the last preceding paragraph, regretted what he regarded as threats being made in case a decision were to be taken with which certain delegations were in disagreement. It was well known that a number of Member States were envisaging their

withdrawal from the Organization if their points of view on certain subjects did not prevail. Such statements did not in his view further a dispassionate examination of an administrative and financial issue.

(22) Several delegates, pointing out that the problem under consideration was one of great complexity and delicacy, found it difficult to suggest unequivocal answers to the questions posed in paragraph 4 of document 23 C/93. They expressed confidence in the Director-General's wisdom in exercising the discretionary authority vested in him, taking due account of the particular circumstances of each individual case. One of them considered that it was impossible to give purely administrative answers to questions which had important legal implications. Another thought that the only replies that could be given were, with respect to paragraph 4(a), that the appointments of nationals of a State which had withdrawn from the Organization should not be extended except in so far as their services had, in the Director-General's judgement, given full satisfaction; and, in response to paragraph 4(b), that priority must be given to nationals of Member States while respecting the rights of staff members who were nationals of a non-Member State.

(23) One member of the Commission, who shared the views expressed by the speakers whose interventions are summarized in paragraphs 11 to 14 above, regretted that the question under consideration, in view of its legal implications, had not been submitted to the Legal Committee for advice. He expressed the hope that, despite the conflicting points of view expressed in the debate, the Commission might reach a consensus, and suggested that sufficient time should be made available for informal negotiations to this end.

(24) Another member of the Committee also felt that the matter should have been referred to the Legal Committee. He indicated that his own region was poorly represented in the Secretariat. Not being fully convinced that the criteria of integrity, loyalty and efficiency could be applied objectively, he urged that the principle of equitable geographical distribution be applied.

(25) One delegate indicated his Government's acceptance of the terms of paragraphs (a) and (b) because they embodied principles enshrined in the Constitution and were in conformity with the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of the Organization. His reply to the question in paragraph 4(a) would be in the affirmative so long as the staff members concerned were competent and loyal to the Organization. Such an approach (i) would ensure the continuity and effectiveness of the operational activities of the Organization; (ii) would be conducive to the efforts to bring the State that had withdrawn back to the Organization, thus restoring the principle

of universality; and (iii) would not entail drastic changes in the number of staff members who are nationals of that State in the event of its return to the Organization. As to the question in paragraph 4(b), the answer should be, in principle, in the affirmative, that is, reduction should first of all affect nationals of States that have withdrawn from membership of the Organization provided, however, that other things were equal. This was however a complicated matter which needs to be dealt with cautiously according to specific situations.

(26) The Chairman then authorized representatives of the two Staff Associations to address the Commission.

(27) The representative of the International Staff Association of Unesco (ISAU) said that his Association unreservedly supported the Director-General's views about keeping on in the Secretariat United States nationals, who should be neither subjected to discrimination nor accorded privileges in connection with any staff reduction measures. He recalled that the international character of the duties of staff members was clearly stated in Article VI.4 of the Constitution of Unesco, reflected in the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules and recognized by the International Court of Justice, and had been constantly upheld by the Administrative Tribunals of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation. He pointed out in that connection that his Association had previously opposed the proposal that staff members should be subjected to externally initiated rotation between membership of the international civil service at Unesco and of the civil service of their respective countries. Finally, he regretted the blow struck at the principle of the universality of Unesco by the withdrawal of a Member State and said the continued threats to that principle were in danger of undermining both the ultimate purpose and the material bases of the principle of the independence of the international civil service, a principle that must not become a statement of what should be, regardless of what really was.

(28) The representative of the

Staff Association (STA) stated that the principle of the independence of the international civil service which is one of the conditions of universality of Unesco was enshrined in Article VI.4 of the Constitution and reflected, inter alia, in Staff Regulations 1.1 and 1.9; it has been recognized by the International Court of Justice and constantly upheld by the Administrative Tribunals. It followed from that principle that the nationality of a staff member could not be a consideration in any decision affecting his or her career. He complained that no overall austerity plan had so far been elaborated by the Administration, and proposed such a plan on behalf of the Staff Association comprising, inter alia, the suspension of all outside recruitment until the end of the staff reduction exercise, an end to the granting and extension of contracts beyond the age of retirement, incentives to voluntary departures, any abolition of posts to be made in the light of the Programme and not of the particular incumbent, and the establishment of a joint staff-management committee to make recommendations on staff redeployment and reduction. Unnegotiated departures of staff are in no way inevitable; if any, they should be made according to competence and length of service in conformity with Staff Rule 109.5. He recalled that the Director-General alone has statutory responsibility for staff management.

(29) At the end of its deliberations on this item, the Commission recommended by consensus to the General Conference to adopt Part III of the draft resolution on item (23 C/Resolution 0.9).*

(30) The representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland expressed reservations. The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany noted that that draft resolution, 23 C/ADM//DR.9, would be interpreted by his government so that when it comes to renewal or reduction of staff, nationality cannot be a criterion.

* Parts I and II of this resolution were examined by the Legal Committee.

PART II

ITEM 3 - CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 1986-1987 (23 C/5)

ITEM 3.2 - METHODS OF PREPARING THE BUDGET AND THE BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1986-1987

(31) Opening the discussion on this item, the Chairman stated that the Commission was required to ensure that the draft programme and budget for 1986-1987 (23 C/5) had been prepared by the Director-General in accordance with the directives given by the General

Conference in 22 C/Resolution 44 and the Executive Board in 120 EX/Decision 4.1.

(32) The Deputy Director-General informed the Commission that the budgeting techniques used for the preparation of the budget were detailed in paragraphs C.1 to C.12 of Volume I of document 23 C/5 and commented on the more significant techniques. The use of the constant dollar principle had been continued entailing the separate

calculation of inflation and currency fluctuation. As regards the cost of inflation in the present biennium (recosting) an amount of \$39,453,000 had been distributed over the base figures in order to bring the cost levels up to those anticipated at the end of 1985. This was a new practice which had been welcomed by the Executive Board. The cost of inflation expected to occur throughout the whole of the 1986-1987 biennium was \$21,493,000 and represented an annual inflation rate of just under 5 per cent. This provision, which is placed in Part VII of the budget may only be used with the authority of the Executive Board. Another important technique was the dealing with currency fluctuation. Whereas the budget had been prepared on the basis of constant dollar exchange rates of 6.45 French and 2.01 Swiss francs, in February 1985 the real exchange rates were 9.65 French and 2.67 Swiss francs. The difference between these rates had resulted in a negative provision of \$88,705,000 being placed in Part VIII of the budget. However, due to variations in the exchange rates the amount under Part VIII had already been revised to \$69,841,000 in document 23 C/5 Rev.1, and another Revision was being prepared using the October 1985 exchange rates of 8.10 French and 2.19 Swiss francs.

(33) Budget standards, particularly for staff costs, had continued to be used and, in this connection, the Deputy Director-General referred to the difficult situation which might arise in 1986-1987 because of the 5 per cent reduction (lapse) which had been applied to the staff cost estimates in order to take account of staff turnover. Staff requirements for 1986-1987 had been subjected to a very strict examination resulting in a decrease of some 100 posts in document 23 C/5 as compared to the previous budget.

(34) As recommended by the Executive Board, the budget was based on an amount of \$391,168,000, increased by the amount of inflation in 1984-1985, and the 1986-1987 proposals represented zero real growth with the exception of a small mandatory increase. However, as the 1986-1987 budget is the same as that for 1984-1985, and as the withdrawal of the United States of America means that the amount of contributions from Member States will be reduced by 25 per cent, adjustments must therefore be made to reduce the budget to the new level of income. For this purpose a new Part of the budget, Part IX - Blocked Funds, had been opened and the budgetary provisions concerning activities to be placed in reserve will be entered in this Part. At present Part IX shows no figure, but the various Commissions, including the Administrative Commission will decide on the transfer of activities to this Part.

(35) The 21 delegates who took part in the ensuing discussion were satisfied that the Director-General had prepared

the draft programme and budget for 1986-1987 in accordance with the directives given by the General Conference and the Executive Board. Several speakers recalled that the budgeting techniques used by Unesco were the fruit of many years' experience. Others expressed their appreciation of the innovations in document 23 C/5 which increased the clarity and transparency of the budget and made more information available than in previous budgets.

(36) In reply to a question as to whether any increases in inflation costs were anticipated, the Deputy Director-General stated that the inflation rates used for the calculation of Recosting (inflation in 1984-1985) and the Appropriation Reserve (inflation 1986-1987) had been carefully and cautiously chosen. For example, as concerns Recosting, the increase in staff costs represented only some 3.9 per cent per year and took into account the freeze in post adjustment for all United Nations professional staff and the slowing down of the increase of the wages index in the host country. As for the assumption of just under 5 per cent per year for the purposes of calculating the Appropriation Reserve, this rate was considered to be adequate. No revision of the budget due to inflation was at present under consideration. On the other hand, because of the fall in the value of the United States dollar, a second revision of Part VIII (Currency Fluctuation) was being prepared. On the basis of the October 1985 rates of exchange, i.e. 8.10 French and 2.19 Swiss francs, the negative provision under Part VIII was reduced from \$88,705,000 in document 23 C/5 to \$54,018,000. This meant an increase of the total budget from \$363,781,000 to \$398,468,000, due entirely to currency fluctuation. The ease with which this change could be effected demonstrated the usefulness of the budgeting technique, as the cause of the change in the total budget was immediately identified and isolated in Part VIII of the budget.

(37) Several speakers stated that they were in favour of the presentation of the budget in two volumes as this increased the readability and usefulness of the document. However, some delegates were concerned that this presentation increased the volume of the document, thereby entailing extra work and additional costs to the Secretariat. One delegate suggested that the C/5 document should be drastically reduced in size and that the General Conference should evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of the new form of presentation. The Deputy Director-General informed the Commission that this was the first time the C/5 document had been produced in this form. The Director-General had attempted to respond to all the proposals made by the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board, and this had certainly caused increased work and additional

costs. Improvements and a reduction in the length of the document could, no doubt, be made and the views of the General Conference and the experience gained during the execution of the programme would be taken into account when considering any changes in future C.5 documents.

(38) Two delegates expressed their concern that the application of the lapse reduction factor to the staff costs budget might result in the need for supplementary estimates. Another speaker stated that the Executive Board had recommended a zero growth budget and trusted that this recommendation would be fully respected. She hoped that neither the lapse factor nor any other measures to be taken would result in an increase of costs for Member States, either directly or indirectly through the non-refund of surpluses. The Deputy Director-General replied that the 1986-1987 biennium would be extremely difficult, particularly because of the application of lapse but the Director-General will monitor the situation very closely and report to the Executive Board. Every effort would be made to live within the budget.

(39) Also referring to the Executive Board's recommendation for zero growth, one delegate was surprised to note that the extra-budgetary activities showed negative growth. The Commission was informed that the estimates in document 23 C/5 are forecasts of the activities which will be entrusted to Unesco during the forthcoming biennium and represent the closest possible approximation based on information presently available.

(40) One speaker maintained that the proportion of programme staff to support and administrative staff was unsatisfactory for an organization with an intellectual vocation such as Unesco, and called for reductions in the latter category. He also suggested that posts remaining vacant for a certain period should automatically be abolished. The Deputy Director-General replied that the Director-General always endeavoured to increase programme staff in preference to support staff, but reminded the Commission that all staff, whatever their functions, worked for the programme of Unesco. As concerns the suppression of vacant posts, this had been done in order to compensate for the reduction in the budget and some 550 posts were being placed in reserve in Part IX.

(41) At the conclusion of the debate, the Commission agreed unanimously that the directives of the General Conference and the Executive Board had been correctly followed by the Director-General in preparing the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987.

DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 1986-1987 (23 C/5)

(42) Having completed its consideration of the methods of preparing the budget and budget estimates for 1986-1987, the Commission examined, chapter by chapter, Parts I, IV, V, VI, VII and VIII of the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 (document 23 C/5).

(43) The Chairman informed the Commission that, in its examination of these Parts of the budget, it should take into account Decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 122nd session, recommending that budgetary adjustments be made in the Parts of the budget under review, as set forth in Annex II to document 23 C/6 Addendum. These adjustments would entail the transfer to Part IX of the budget (Blocked Funds) of the amounts shown below with a view to meeting the consequences of the withdrawal from the Organization of the United States of America as of 31 December 1984, which had resulted in a loss of revenue corresponding to 25 per cent of the assessed contributions of Member States:

Appropriation Line	23 C/5 \$	Adjustments \$	23 C/5 Adjusted \$
PART I - General Policy and Direction			
1. GENERAL CONFERENCE	5,497,000	-	5,497,000
2. EXECUTIVE BOARD	6,197,000	-	6,197,000
3. DIRECTORATE	1,019,800	-	1,019,800
4. SERVICES OF THE DIRECTORATE	13,812,900	(730,700)	13,082,200
5. PARTICIPATION IN THE JOINT MACHINERY OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM	967,500	-	967,500
Total	27,494,200	(730,700)	26,763,500
PART IV - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			
comprising:			
1. Office of the Assistant Director-General for General Administration	697,600	(94,700)	602,900
2. Bureau of the Comptroller	8,288,200	(814,000)	7,474,200
3. Bureau of Personnel	12,985,100	(3,329,000)	9,656,100
4. Bureau of Data Processing Services	5,484,900	(1,221,000)	4,263,900
5. Bureau of General Services	4,997,700	(1,257,200)	3,740,500
PART V - COMMON SERVICES	35,425,100	(8,924,300)	26,500,800
PART VI - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	4,893,000	(3,838,000)	1,055,000
Grand Total, Parts I, IV, V and VI	100,265,800	(20,208,900)	80,056,900

(44) Concerning the procedures to be followed in the examination of these Parts of the budget, the Chairman invited the Commission to recommend approval by the General Conference of those estimates constituting separate appropriation lines, subject to the

Administrative Commission

transfer to Part IX of the budget of the adjustments shown in the above table, and to note the estimates for Chapters included under an appropriation line. He also informed the Commission that the budget estimates so recommended for approval, or so noted by the Commission were also subject to modification at the time of the adoption of the provisional budget ceiling and to adjustment at the time of the final adoption of the Appropriation Resolution, after examination by a joint meeting of the Administrative and Programme Commissions.

ITEM 3.4 - PART I - GENERAL POLICY AND DIRECTION

Chapter 1 - General Conference

(45) Introducing this Chapter, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration drew the attention of the Commission to the assumptions on which the estimates were based, as shown in paragraphs 00003 and 00004 of document 23 C/5. Having informed the Commission that no budgetary adjustment had been proposed in the provision of \$5,497,000 for 1986-1987 foreseen under this Chapter, nor under several others where this had not been deemed feasible, he reminded the Commission that this was strictly in conformity with paragraph 26 of decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 121st session, that the adjustments to be made under Parts I, II.B, III, IV, V and VI '... should not be applied uniformly to all these parts ...'.

(46) One member requested an estimate of the cost of the General Conference if its length were reduced by half, from approximately four weeks to two weeks. The Assistant Director-General for General Administration replied that the budgetary reduction would not be in direct proportion to the decrease in duration, as there were many fixed costs entailed for the Conference. On the basis of the estimates made by the Office of Conferences, Languages and Documents, the costs of a General Conference reduced from approximately six weeks to two and a half weeks would be \$3,600,000. This would be compared with the amount of \$5,115,700 shown in the draft 23 C/5 (\$5,497,000 less the cost of External Audit fees of \$381,300).

(47) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$5,497,000 for this Chapter.

Chapter 2 - Executive Board

(48) Discussion of the Chapter centred on two issues: the travel and subsistence allowance arrangements for the members of the Board; the staffing of the Board's secretariat.

(49) As to the subsistence allowance for Board members or their deputies, two members expressed the view

that the appropriate bodies should examine the question of whether such allowances should be payable to Board members or their deputies who were receiving similar allowances from their governments as Permanent Delegates to Unesco or members of Permanent Delegations, particularly in view of the budgetary stringencies facing the Organization in 1986-1987. Several members of the Commission, emphasizing that a generalized approach should be avoided in view of the variety of the individual situations of the Board members, suggested that an in-depth study be made of the question. The Chairman considered that any such study should bear in mind the threefold nature of Board members' functions. The Commission was given the assurance that the payment of travel and subsistence allowances to Board members was effected in strict conformity with the regulations set forth in the Annex to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Board. Naturally, members of the Board had the right to waive their entitlement to subsistence allowance payment if they deemed this appropriate. Information was also provided to the Commission on elements which were taken into account for the calculation of subsistence allowance payments, which were essentially to cover hotel costs, meals and incidentals, the rates for which were based on surveys conducted by the International Civil Service Commission. Those rates took account of moderate food and lodging costs, not luxury conditions. In the case of Board members or their deputies attending meetings in the locality in which they resided, half of the subsistence allowance was paid, primarily to cover the additional expenditure and representation costs entailed in participating in Board sessions.

(50) One member having inquired whether the request by Australia and New Zealand to be included in electoral group IV instead of electoral group I would have additional budgetary implications, the Commission was informed that the travel costs with respect to the Board members, as foreseen in document 23 C/5, were calculated on the basis of standard costs which took account of the differences in distances travelled by members to attend Board sessions. Thus, while a change in the geographical composition of the Board might have an incidence on costs, the use of the standard cost technique permitted the averaging out of such incidences; consequently, the proposal of Australia and New Zealand did not pose a budgetary problem.

(51) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration provided information concerning the provision made in subparagraph (iv) of paragraph 00012 of document 23 C/5 for the travel of Board members wishing to examine how the Organization's field projects are carried out and how the Regional Offices are functioning, especially in the

regions to which they belong. One member wondered whether such a provision was not a luxury at the present juncture, stating that to his knowledge such travel had not been carried out in his region. Another speaker informed the Commission that, whilst his government had not favoured such travel facilities for Board members at the outset, it was recognized that in order for the Board to carry out its constitutionally defined responsibilities for ensuring the effective and rational execution of the programme by the Director-General between two ordinary sessions of the General Conference, such travel may be appropriate. He considered that the findings of Board members carrying out missions to Field projects and Regional Offices should be reported in an appropriate form to the General Conference.

(52) With respect to the staffing of the Board's secretariat, several members referred to the statement of intention given in paragraph 00014 that the Director-General would transfer one Professional post to the Secretariat of the Executive Board in 1986-1987 with a view to increasing its staff resources, in accordance with the decision adopted by the Executive Board at its 120th session, based on the recommendations of the Temporary Committee (document 120 EX/3), Recommendation F(1), Subparagraph 8(a). One member recalled that in discussing this Chapter at the 121st session of the Executive Board, some members of the Finance and Administrative Commission had wondered whether the transfer of one post was sufficient, given the importance of the Board in the life of the Organization. He considered that the question of further reinforcing the Board's secretariat should be studied in the course of the 1986-1987 biennium in the light of the possibilities in this respect. Referring to this same paragraph in document 23 C/5, another speaker considered that, in the interests of budgetary transparency, staff strength of the Board's secretariat should be given as eight for 1986-1987, instead of seven in the staff table in paragraph 00013 of document 23 C/5, given the intention of the Director-General to transfer another post thereto. Another member felt that, while a reduction in the budget provision for the Board by streamlining its meetings would have been desirable, in light of the decrease in the Organization's resources, an increase in the Board's staff seemed appropriate, given the work that the Board would have in future.

(53) The Assistant-Director-General for General Administration pointed out that, in addition to those posts specifically provided under this Chapter, the Board also had available to it the total resources of the Secretariat if the specific expertise of a given sector was required. As to whether eight posts should have been provided

for under this Chapter, instead of seven, this would have required the inclusion of a budgetary provision for an additional post, whereas, within the context of the general economy measures for 1986-1987, the Director-General intended to fill this position by the re-deployment of a suitable post in another unit of the Secretariat. The post so transferred would be reflected in the budget base of the Executive Board in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1988-1989 in accordance with the existing budget practices and techniques followed by Unesco and other United Nations organizations.

(54) As to the streamlining of the meetings of the Board and particularly the reduction of the length of its sessions, as suggested by one speaker, another member pointed out that, while a decision on this matter fell within the competence of the General Conference, the Commission should make concrete proposals in this respect should it deem such a measure warranted. The Secretariat, for its part, could propose budget estimates only on the basis of the existing arrangements, until such time as they were modified by the General Conference.

(55) Following the discussion, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$6,197,700 for this Chapter.

Chapter 3 - Directorate

(56) One delegate having noted that the budget provision of \$719,000 for staff costs for 1986-1987 covered only four posts, that of the Director-General, the Deputy Director-General and two General Service staff, pointed out that this averaged out to nearly \$180,000 per post. He wondered why no provision for hospitality was made. In reply, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration provided detailed information on the salaries and allowances covered under this Chapter, as well as the representation allowances of \$30,400 per annum for the Director-General and of \$5,600 per annum for the Deputy Director-General which were included in the staff costs provision. In this connection he explained that the granting of representation allowances to officials of a certain rank was a standard practice within the United Nations system, the corollary being that such officials did not also receive hospitality expenses, which was a vouchered form of expenditure.

(57) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$1,019,800 for this Chapter.

Chapter 4 - Services of the Directorate

(58) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration informed the Commission that this Chapter comprised

eight units: Executive Office of the Director-General; Inspectorate General; the Mediator; Regional Co-ordinators; Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs; Bureau of Studies and Programming; Bureau of the Budget; Central Evaluation Unit.

(59) One member was of the opinion that considerable efforts had been made to effect reductions under this Chapter, drawing particular attention to the fact that further to the recommendation of the Executive Board, 20 work-years, or ten posts, would be placed in reserve under Part IX of the budget. This was a considerable reduction given the importance of the tasks assigned to the eight units. Another speaker, noting that the provision for the units under this Chapter, as well as those made under Chapters 1, 2 and 3, included sums for consultants, temporary assistance and overtime, expressed the view that reductions should be made in such provisions, given the budgetary stringencies facing the Organization.

(60) A - Executive Office of the Director-General - One member, while satisfied that one Director level post and one General Service post had been reduced under this Chapter, expressed the hope that the decentralization activities of the Executive Office, as set out in paragraph 00028 of document 23 C/5, would lead in the long term to a substantial reduction of its own staff. Two other members expressed opposing views, considering that the additional responsibilities placed on the Executive Office with respect to monitoring decentralization and co-ordinating the work of the Intersectoral Committee on the Decentralization Process amply justified the provision of additional staff. Another speaker considered that, in the interests of budgetary transparency, information should have been provided concerning the proposal to cut two posts and downgrade one post so as to enable Member States to comment on it in a responsible manner. In this connection, he wondered whether the posts were really cut or whether they would be transferred to another unit of the Secretariat. Responding to these observations, the Assistant Director-General/Director of the Executive Office confirmed that the proposed abolitions represented real cuts, entailing the reduction of the staff costs provision by \$218,000, owing to the abolition of a Professional post and a General Service post and the downgrading of a director level post to the Professional category. With respect to the possibility of further reductions, he informed the Commission that the experience of the last two years had shown that the volume of work of the Executive Office had in fact increased. In this connection, he pointed out that those who had closely followed the work of the Executive Board and its Temporary Committee were aware of the volume of tasks

of the Executive Office in contributing to the success of their deliberations, particularly with respect to decentralization. In fact, an evaluation of the workload of the Executive Office had concluded that it was necessary to increase its staff, rather than to reduce it, particularly in light of the importance placed by Member States on the smooth, rapid and efficient decentralization of the activities of the Organization. As a contribution to the efforts to meet the budgetary stringencies resulting from the withdrawal of the United States of America, a reduction of two posts had been proposed with an increase in temporary assistance. It was also proposed to maintain the provision for overtime at the same level as for 1984-1985 despite the fact that the workload of the Executive Office entailed considerable overtime work for which payments had to be foreseen, given that the secretarial staff could not be granted time off in lieu of payment owing to the pressure of work. As to the question raised by one member concerning whether decentralization would lead to a reduction in the staff of the Executive Office at Headquarters, the Assistant Director-General/Director of the Executive Office confirmed that it was not deemed feasible or desirable to decentralize the Executive Office, particularly in view of its task of assisting the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General in the performance of their duties.

(61) B - Inspectorate General - Introducing this unit, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that four work-years of staff, corresponding to a Professional and a General Service post had been recommended for placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget by the Executive Board at its 122nd session (document 23 C/6 Add., Annex II), entailing a budgetary reduction of \$151,000. Every effort would be made to reassign the workload of these posts to existing staff so as not to jeopardize the essential management and internal auditing functions carried out by the Inspectorate General, which were part and parcel of the efficient functioning of the Secretariat.

(62) One member having noted that the 1984-1985 budget base for the Inspectorate General included two posts (one Professional and one General Service) over and above the 15 posts provided in the Approved Programme and Budget for 1984-1985 (document 22 C/5 Approved), was given the explanation that this reflected the transfer of the responsibility for the Administrative Manual from the Bureau of Personnel to the Division of Administrative Management in pursuance of a specific recommendation to Unesco from the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit. The transfer had been approved by the

Executive Board at its 121st session in 121 EX/Decision 8.2.

(63) One member having queried whether extra-budgetary financing might be envisaged for certain staff of the Inspectorate General, the Commission was informed that this seemed precluded, given that the normal practice followed by Unesco, which was in conformity with that followed by other United Nations organizations, was that the costs of basic services and basic functions should be financed from the regular programme. Extra-budgetary resources were used for financing additional infrastructure required on account of activities carried out in connection with such extra-budgetary sources.

(64) C - The Mediator - The view was expressed by one speaker that the amount of \$3,400 for temporary assistance for this unit did not seem justified. The speaker was advised that this amount was to cover the secretarial needs of the Mediator in the case of absences of his secretary (e.g. on extended sick leave).

(65) D - Regional Co-ordinators - During the discussion of this unit, a number of speakers voiced their support for the functions foreseen for the Regional Co-ordinators as set out in paragraphs 00052 to 00059, stressing that the mechanism of the Regional Co-ordinators should be further strengthened and extended in 1986-1987. One of these members, congratulating the Director-General on his proposals, considered that they indicated a noteworthy development of the policy of decentralization within the Organization, which was being implemented with speed and determination by the Secretariat. He expressed the view that an even greater devolution of authority from Headquarters to the Field was required as soon as possible. While supporting the proposals, another speaker voiced the concern expressed at the eighth regional meeting of National Commissions for the Latin America and Caribbean Region that co-ordination was not taking place with the degree of efficiency required. Representatives from English-speaking Member States in the region had put particular emphasis on the need to reinforce the machinery to enhance its effectiveness in all areas making up the region. Two members of the Commission from the Africa Region, expressed the concern of their region over the delay in the appointment of the Regional Co-ordinator for Africa and asked when this official would be appointed.

(66) As to the role to be played by the Regional Co-ordinators, one member stressed that they should not constitute an additional layer of bureaucracy or impede the functioning of the Assistant Directors-General responsible for the programme sectors. Another speaker felt that more adequate reporting was required on the activities of the Regional Co-ordinators, particularly the activi-

ties aimed at fostering the decentralization of the Organization's activities. He suggested that adequate information on this matter be provided in future reports by the Director-General on the activities of the Organization (document C/3). In this same connection, two members of the Commission stressed the need to have an integrated, holistic presentation of all of the operations of the Organization at the regional level, so as to enable Member States to have a bird's-eye view of the activities in this respect, particularly those being carried out by the Regional Offices and the Regional Co-ordinators. The possibility might also be explored of presenting in future C/5 documents an integrated summary of such activities, similar to that for Major Programme XIV (The status of women).

(67) On the subject of the budget provisions made for the Regional Co-ordinators, one member, having noted the recommendation of the Executive Board in Annex II to document 23 C/6 Add. to place in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$158,700 for the Regional Co-ordinators, stated that he was opposed to any reduction in funding for the Regional Co-ordinators, which would hamper the development of this mechanism. Another member deemed that economies of the order of 50 per cent of the budget provision might be derived from merging the functions of Regional Co-ordinator with that of Director of a Regional Office. Another query was raised as to the pattern envisaged for Regional Co-ordinators, i.e. whether they would form separate entities, be merged with the Regional Offices, or would comprehensive offices be created in each region covering all fields of Unesco's competence. In reply to a query from one speaker concerning the disparity in the staff and operating expenses between the different Regional Co-ordinators, another ventured the suggestion that this was explained by the fact that certain Regional Co-ordinators had established offices, such as that for the Latin America and Caribbean region in Caracas, Venezuela, for which his country, as the host government, has increased its support.

(68) Responding to these observations, the Assistant Director-General/Director of the Executive Office thanked the speakers for their useful comments and gave his assurance that the Secretariat would take due account of them. He stated that the development of the regional co-ordination machinery was a necessary element for the extension of decentralization and for the increased delegation of authority to the Field, so as to ensure that these policies could be implemented in a co-ordinated and coherent manner. The Director-General had given a clear picture of the development of decentralization in paragraphs A.66 to A.73 of Volume 1 of document 23 C/5, which indicated that an

appreciable effort had been made by the sectors responsible for the Social and Human Sciences, Culture and Communication to extend decentralization of their activities in 1986-1987, whereas the already substantial efforts made by the Education and Natural Sciences Sectors with a view to decentralizing their staff had further progressed in 1986-1987, the rate for the former sector attaining some 47 per cent and that for the latter some 36 per cent. He also reminded the Commission that detailed information on the main aspects of decentralization for 1986-1987, general policies envisaged for 1988-1989 and results obtained through decentralization had also been provided to the Executive Board at its 122nd session in document 122 EX/25, in accordance with the timetable drawn up by the Temporary Committee. He informed the Commission that, in conformity with the decision adopted by the Board on the basis of that document, the Director-General would undertake, immediately after the twenty-third session of the General Conference, an evaluation study of decentralization in order to determine how far decentralization had achieved its objectives. A consultation of Member States, inter alia, would be held for that purpose. It is hoped that National Commissions will take part in this consultation, which will call upon them to express their opinions on the measures adopted in recent years in the field of decentralization in a precise and detailed manner and in light of their own experience and needs. It is envisaged that the findings of the report will be submitted to the Board at its 125th session.

(69) The Assistant Director-General/Director of the Executive Office drew the attention of the Commission to the fact that the regional co-ordination mechanism was relatively recent, the first such post having been established for the Latin America and the Caribbean region a few years ago. In the present, experimental phase, two approaches were being followed, one entailing the investing of the functions of Regional Co-ordinator in the Director of an existing Regional Office, as had been the case in the Asia and the Pacific region, the other approach being to invest these functions in a distinct post of Regional Co-ordinator, as in the case of the Latin America and Caribbean Region. The merits of these two approaches would be assessed in the study referred to above and the necessary recommendations made in this respect. It was certain that the former approach had the advantage of enabling the Co-ordinator to draw upon the contacts and resources of the Regional Office for Education for Asia and the Pacific; at the same time, the Regional Co-ordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean enjoyed full support including generous financial support, from the Venezuelan Government, for which the Director-General was

grateful. As to the concerns expressed by two speakers over the delay in the appointment of the Regional Co-ordinator for Africa, the Assistant Director-General/Director of the Executive Office informed the Commission that the Director-General intended to appoint the Director of the Regional Office for Education in Africa, in Dakar, to that post shortly. As to the Co-ordinator for the Arab States, appropriate measures in this respect were under study. The Commission could rest assured that a flexible and pragmatic approach would be followed with a view to further extending and strengthening the regional co-ordination machinery, as had been recommended by the Executive Board.

(70) E - Office of International Standards and Legal Affairs - In reply to queries from members of the Commission, information was provided on the increase of \$41,000 under staff costs, which was primarily due to the up-grading of two General Service posts in 1984-1985, which had already been effected within the context of the procedure foreseen for individual claims for the reclassification of posts under Staff Rule 102.2, and on the provision of \$3,900 foreseen for 1986-1987 for contracts.

(71) Queries were raised as to whether the workload justified the provision of 15 posts and the attachment of two director level posts to the Office. The Commission was given the assurance that the workload of the Office in providing legal advice to the Director-General and the governing organs, as well as assisting in work related to the formulation, adoption and revision of international standard-setting instruments, fully warranted the maintenance of the existing staff and of the two posts of Director. These two posts were of different directorial levels, the grading being compatible with the standards used by all United Nations organizations for the classification of posts with similar responsibilities. However, the attention of the Commission was drawn to the fact that, as part of the budgetary adjustments to meet the consequences of the withdrawal of the United States of America, the Executive Board had recommended that the staff of the Office be reduced by one Professional and one General Service post.

(72) F - Bureau of Studies and Programming - The Assistant Director-General for General Administration replying to queries from members of the Commission, provided information on the proposal to down-grade from Assistant Director-General to Principal Director level the post of head of the office, and on various transfers of posts which had been made from the Bureau to the unit headed by the Co-ordinator responsible for matters relating to the status of women, on the one hand, and to the Central Evaluation Unit, on the other. One member expressed the view that the

consultant costs foreseen for the Bureau, amounting to \$21,500 for 1986-1987, could be reduced by drawing more widely on the expertise of national experts in developing countries provided they received the appropriate training. The Commission was informed that this would be done to the extent possible but that such a measure did not eliminate costs altogether, since the use of such national expertise also required funds for travel to consult with the Secretariat and for the equitable remuneration of the experts concerned. The assurance was given that recourse was made to consultants only when sufficient expertise was not available in the Secretariat and when this was the most economical and efficient modality for carrying out the task concerned.

(73) G - Bureau of the Budget - On the question why a new provision of \$13,000 was requested for supplies and equipment, whereas the abolition of a General Service post was proposed in paragraph 00102 as a result of the increased mechanization of the budgetary process, the Commission was informed that these matters were linked, since the equipment foreseen for acquisition was a mini-computer with word-processing applications, which would reduce the amount of time spent by staff doing calculations. In this connection, the Commission was informed that a further three posts would be pared from the staff strength of the Bureau of the Budget (two Professional and one General Service), in line with the recommendations made by the Executive Board, as set out in Annex II to document 23 C/6 Add. Information was also provided to the Commission on the proposed provisions for temporary assistance and overtime and of the need for two director level posts, one of which served as Director of the Bureau and the other as Deputy Director.

(74) One member of the Commission voiced his strong support for the updating of working methods and equipment with respect to budgetary control, particularly given that the 25 per cent reduction in the Organization's budget required that it had a strong data base to test and monitor the accuracy of its budgetary estimates and assumptions. The Assistant Director-General for General Administration provided the Commission with detailed information concerning: the arrangements with respect to data processing services in the Secretariat, which comprised a central computer service, the Bureau of Data Processing Services; the mainframe computer, which was replaced in 1985; and the prospects with respect to the further development of computer equipment and services in 1986-1987 which was subject to the availability of funds.

(75) Concerning the organizational location of the Bureau, the same speaker reiterated his view that the units responsible for budgeting (Bureau of the Budget) on the one hand, and accounting

(Bureau of the Comptroller), on the other hand, should report to the same authority, which should oversee the allotment and expenditure of funds, in line with the pattern followed in the rest of the United Nations system. It was his strongly held view that the Director-General should look into the question of whether the present arrangements in Unesco should be modified. The Assistant Director-General for General Administration informed the Commission that, under the present arrangements, the Bureau of the Budget worked in close conjunction with the Bureau of Studies and Programming, in line with the concept of programme budgeting followed by the Organization. Of course, there were divergent views regarding the best organizational location for the Bureau, but in practice the Bureau of the Budget and the Bureau of the Comptroller were two sides of the same coin, and collaborated in a close and effective manner. He considered that the present arrangements worked well on balance.

(76) H - Central Evaluation Unit - Thirty delegates commented on the proposed budget for the Central Evaluation Unit and the responsibilities assigned to it and asked the Secretariat for further explanations about them. Twenty-eight of them unreservedly supported the Organization's evaluation activities, emphasizing how important evaluation was for the smooth progress of activities, and for their satisfactory planning and programming. They pointed out that the measures that the Director-General had taken for that purpose were in accordance with the recommendations of the Executive Board and its Temporary Committee and with the conclusions of the consultative working group on evaluation methods and techniques, convened by the Director-General in July 1984. Some delegates also pointed out that the measures taken with regard to evaluation met a long-felt need and were in keeping with the central role that evaluation played in the functioning of the Organization. Other delegates remarked that, when all was said and done, the purpose of evaluation was to demonstrate that the funds were being spent in such a way as to achieve the objectives set for the Organization's activities efficiently and as economically as possible.

(77) Two delegates, however, expressed doubts or uneasiness on the score that it could be very difficult for the Central Evaluation Unit to cover all Unesco's fields of competence, particularly in view of its small staff. While recognizing the usefulness of evaluation activities and the advantage of establishing the Central Evaluation Unit, they stressed that the operation was essentially experimental and that at its next session, the General Conference should review the results achieved, so as to draw the necessary conclusions as to whether or not the experiment should be continued.

(78) A number of delegates referred to the role and functions of the Central Evaluation Unit in carrying out evaluation work falling into the first, second and third categories and in relation to the responsibilities of the Organization's various sectors. One of them emphasized that evaluation should form an integral part of the programme and that, for that purpose, criteria should be established for assessing exactly how the results and effects of activities carried out measured up against the expected results and targets indicated in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987. Another delegate summarized the purposes of evaluation, stressing that the object was to gain a better knowledge of what needed to be done, to try to improve the procedures for carrying out the necessary work, and, lastly, to publicize those efforts after improvement through the appropriate media.

(79) The Central Evaluation Unit's responsibilities for stimulating, directing and co-ordinating activities were highlighted by some delegates, who also asked for explanations about the Unit's working relations with the programme sectors and the programme support sectors, and with the National Commissions for Unesco in Member States. One of them wished to know whether the National Commission Division of the External Relations Sector was in contact with the Central Evaluation Unit. Four other delegates pointed out that there might be duplication of work and conflicts of competence between the Central Evaluation Unit and the Inspectorate-General, while two of them were of the opinion that there should be close co-ordination with the Bureau of Studies and Programming and, more generally, with the Bureau of the Budget and the Inspectorate-General.

(80) One delegate wished to know to whom the Central Evaluation Unit reported. Three others raised the question of the decisions to be taken following evaluation work; i.e. the necessary arrangements and measures for acting on the findings of all the evaluation work done.

(81) Several delegates stressed how important it was to enlist the help of evaluation specialists or experts both in carrying out evaluation work and in discharging the responsibilities of the General Evaluation Unit. Such external evaluation or frequent recourse to outside expertise in evaluation constituted an essential guarantee of the quality and credibility of the studies or work to be carried out in that field. Moreover, evaluations carried out by the co-ordinating bodies of intergovernmental programmes, i.e. by committees of experts or specialists who did not form part of the Organization but were conversant with its activities, were considered by one delegate to represent a most useful contribution to the general work of evaluation.

(82) Several delegates also stressed the need to keep the Organization's governing bodies - and also the general public and the information media - regularly and frequently informed of the results of evaluation operations. Such information would make it possible to take the appropriate steps, from one biennium to another, to increase the relevance and effectiveness of the activities carried out, and to make any policy changes considered indispensable. One delegate considered that the Executive Board and the General Conference should devote more time, in the course of their deliberations, to a thorough examination of documents dealing with the results of evaluation work, so that they might be better able to follow the execution of the programme and know more about the background to the activities carried out. The Administrative Commission of the General Conference might, in future, be made responsible for examining those documents and suggesting suitable follow-up measures. A number of delegates added that, at its twenty-fourth session, the General Conference should review the evaluation work done and its results.

(83) Three delegates referred to the eight impact evaluations provided for in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987 under various subprogrammes, asking that the funds allocated for those evaluations should not be reduced in consequence of any budgetary adjustments that might be made; that their priority ratings should be maintained; and that they should be carried out principally in Member States, that is to say, in Unesco's field of action. One of them further pointed out that it would be well, in the case of those evaluations, to avoid recourse to sophisticated techniques or cumbersome statistics, seeking rather to draw clear, simple conclusions based on a critical analysis of the results of the activities carried out by the Organization over a period of years.

(84) Evaluations of projects funded by extra-budgetary resources provided, for instance, by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) or by funds-in-trust were mentioned by three delegates, who wished to have more information about them and who emphasized their usefulness, both for the Member States and for the funding body, and drew attention to the responsibilities of national institutions in conducting the evaluations. One of the delegates wondered whether there might not be some danger of overlapping between the tripartite evaluation of UNDP-funded projects and the overall evaluation of those projects conducted by the Central Evaluation Unit in collaboration with the programme sectors.

(85) With regard to document 23 C/11 (Statement and evaluation of major impacts, achievements, difficulties and shortfalls for each continuing programme activity in 1984-1985),

three delegates felt that the document was a useful one containing a wealth of information about the execution of the programme that could enable Member States to decide whether activities should be continued or possibly discontinued, what priorities should be assigned to them, and what directions they should follow. While anxious to have more information, and at more frequent intervals, than the C/11 document provided, those delegates stressed that the document should be kept to a reasonable size but should contain more material for critical evaluation. One of the delegates considered that the preparation of the C/11 document should be the responsibility of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, so as to relieve the Central Evaluation Unit of that onerous task and allow it to devote its attention to carrying out the actual evaluation work.

(86) On the subject of the budgetary allocations proposed for the Central Evaluation Unit in 1986-1987, three delegates wished to know why the allocations proposed were double those for 1984-1985, the reasons for the very substantial increase in office supplies and equipment, and the exact use to which the proposed appropriations under the headings of 'consultants' and 'staff travel' were to be put.

(87) With regard to the staff of the Unit, two delegates had doubts about the need for the Unit to have four Professional posts and for a Director to be in charge of it. One of the delegates felt that what mattered was not the rank of the head of the Unit but the quality and efficiency of the work the holder of that post did. Several delegates, on the other hand, felt that the Unit's staff was minimal; they saw no objection to the substantial increase in appropriations, because of the priority accorded to evaluation activities; and regarded the appointment of a Director to head the Unit as an appropriate and necessary measure. One of the delegates also pointed out that the appointment of a Director of suitable rank to head the Unit would guarantee its independence and autonomy vis-à-vis the Organization's various sectors.

(88) Replying to the debate, the representative of the Director-General stressed how full and useful the delegates' comments and observations had been; they had dealt not only with budgetary matters, but also with the significance, purposes and methods of the evaluation activities that the Organization was proposing to carry out in 1986-1987. He also thanked the delegates for the views they had expressed about the importance of those activities and the support they had given to the creation of the Central Evaluation Unit and the functions assigned to it. He also provided the following answers to the questions raised and the requests for

clarification made by delegates during the debate:

(i) Over the last ten years, evaluation work and studies had been carried out by the Organization, as witness, for instance, the periodical evaluations of the activities of the intergovernmental scientific programmes, which were made by their co-ordinating councils with the help of the scientific and technical communities concerned. With the establishment of the Central Evaluation Unit, evaluation activities would involve systematic self-evaluation by programme specialists of the activities that they themselves carried out, so that subsequently the relevance of the work performed under the Organization's various programmes could be assessed in relation to the targets assigned to them and the expected results. That was the purpose of the C/11 document, which should help to improve the programming and planning of activities and to enhance their effectiveness.

(ii) The evaluation activities were admittedly experimental in nature, for instance as regards the development of a self-evaluation system for activities carried out under the regular programme, the participation programme and projects financed from extra-budgetary resources. Furthermore, the Organization's governing bodies, after examining the periodic reports which would be made and the results obtained, would be able to introduce such modifications as they deemed appropriate to the evaluation system.

(iii) Evaluation must become an integral part of the programming of activities, as demonstrated by the inclusion in the Bureau of the Budget's instructions for the preparation of Programme Activity Details (PADs) for 1986 of specific recommendations concerning the information that programme specialists should gather so as to be able to make an accurate evaluation of the results of the activities carried out.

(iv) The Central Evaluation Unit reported to the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General. It formed part of the services of the Directorate and its activities were closely co-ordinated with those of the Bureau of Studies and Programming, the Bureau of the Budget and the Inspectorate General. The functions of the Inspectorate General included evaluation of the effective use of staff, the proper distribution of the work of programme execution among the various Secretariat units and the application or implementation of certain decisions taken by the Directorate or the governing bodies of the Organization. The Central Evaluation Unit, on the other hand, was responsible for stimulating and co-ordinating the evaluation of the activities themselves, their results and their impact, in order to ascertain whether they matched up to the intended objectives and expected results. It would therefore be possible at

a subsequent stage to refocus or change the way in which activities were executed or the very nature of those activities. As one delegate had pointed out, the basic difference between the functions of the Inspectorate General and the Central Evaluation Unit was that the former was responsible for checking whether the activities were properly performed while the latter had to ensure that they were the right activities.

(v) Responsibility for preparing the C/11 document, as well as the C/3 document (Report of the Director-General on the activities of the Organization), was at present vested in the Central Evaluation Unit. It worked in close collaboration with the Bureau of Studies and Programming, and the way in which those two documents were prepared could be reviewed in the light of the dual process of the establishment of the Central Evaluation Unit and the internal restructuring of the Bureau of Studies and Programming.

(vi) The Central Evaluation Unit collaborated closely with all programme and programme support sectors, in each of which an official responsible for evaluation activities had been appointed. Those activities were thus carried out not only by members of the Unit, but also by their colleagues in the sectors who were responsible for the various tasks relating to the three categories of evaluation. The need for such collaboration was made even greater by the fact that activities under the participation programme and projects financed from extra-budgetary resources were subject to evaluation as well as activities under the regular programme. In the two former cases, participation by Member States and their National Commissions was essential.

(vii) In the case of projects financed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and executed in Member States by Unesco, tripartite evaluations were regularly made to monitor progress in carrying out the projects, using a methodology developed by UNDP on which the Organization had been consulted. In addition, the purpose of second-category evaluation, for which the Organization and its Central Evaluation Unit were responsible, would be to bring out the impact of those projects in Member States, on the basis of information supplied by them to Unesco. Efforts would also be made to evaluate the impact of projects financed from funds-in-trust; the results of that evaluation would be communicated to the Member States which had supplied those funds.

(viii) The results of evaluation work led to decision-taking at several levels: at Assistant Director-General level as regards the use to be made of the results of the internal self-evaluation of activities; at the level of the Director-General as regards proposals to be made to the Executive Board and the General Conference for such

changes in the thrust of activities as were deemed necessary in the programming process in order to increase their relevance and effectiveness; and at the level of the governing bodies when they examined the Draft Programme and Budget, making use of the C/11 document, impact evaluations and evaluation reports for that purpose.

(ix) External evaluation, i.e. that performed with the help of outside specialists or experts, played an essential role in impact evaluations (third category evaluation), on which the validity of recommendations for the future activities of the Organization depended. Use of outside consultants was also foreseen for the establishment of the self-evaluation system (first category) and for the tests to which it would be put before being extended to the Organization's activities as a whole. The proposed appropriations for 'consultants' should make it possible to hire the services of evaluation experts and specialists. A list of consultants was currently being drawn up by the Central Evaluation Unit and all Member States were invited to submit the names of institutions or specialists capable of assisting Unesco in evaluating its activities.

(x) In addition to the C/3 document, addressed to the Executive Board and the General Conference, the results of impact evaluations would be published after analysis by the Central Evaluation Unit and submitted to the governing bodies of the Organization by the Director-General. Under the authority of the Director-General, the Central Evaluation Unit was also responsible for disseminating any other results of evaluation work carried out within the Secretariat. Relations with Member States would be strengthened, in particular through the implementation of impact studies. Thus, in the case of the three impact studies to be completed by the end of 1985 on the basis of surveys carried out in Member States, the National Commissions had been informed and had made a valuable contribution to the task.

(xi) The main features of document 24 C/11 had been outlined by the Executive Board at its 122nd session in the relevant decision. It would continue to cover a period of activity of 18 months, in 1986-1987; it would highlight the essential facts regarding achievements and impacts, and also the difficulties and shortfalls noted, within the framework of the programmes (and where necessary the subprogrammes); it would give prominence to a critical analysis of achievements and difficulties; and it would deal with the essential aspects of programme support activities under Part II.

(89) The Director a.i. of the Central Evaluation Unit pointed out that the proposed budget for the implementation during the forthcoming biennium

of eight impact evaluations was of the order of \$235,000. That amount did not appear in the budget for the Central Evaluation Unit because those impact evaluations would be made by the sectors, within the framework of the programmes to which they referred. They would nevertheless be carried out in collaboration with the Central Evaluation Unit as regards the methodology employed, the critical analysis of results before publication, and the participation of outside consultants recruited by the Unit for that purpose. The budget for the eight impact evaluations could be mentioned, for information purposes, under section H of Chapter 4.

(90) The funds for 'staff travel' were to enable members of the Central Evaluation Unit to visit offices away from Headquarters in order to introduce the self-evaluation system and to explain exactly how it was to be implemented, thus helping to strengthen the effectiveness of the decentralization policy. Missions by members of the Central Evaluation Unit would also afford them a closer knowledge of the institutions of Member States in each region specializing in evaluation matters, so that they could participate in the Organization's evaluation work. The representative of the Director-General thanked those Member States which had offered their assistance in organizing missions or further training courses and in facilitating the recruitment of consultants.

(91) The considerable increase in the funds earmarked for office supplies and equipment resulted from the need to provide the new unit with the equipment it required, inter alia, to carry out the task of preparing the C/11 and C/3 documents.

(92) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration recalled that the establishment of the Central Evaluation Unit as a separate entity within the Bureau of Studies and Programming, reporting directly to the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General, came in response to the recommendations of the consultative working group on evaluation methods and techniques set up by the Director-General in July 1984. The establishment of the Unit reflected a desire to strike a satisfactory balance between evaluation activities and programming and planning activities.

(93) He further pointed out that the staff of the Unit (1 Director, 3 Professional posts and 3 General Service posts) was comparable, in members and grade, with the staff of similar units in other organizations of the United Nations system, and that the rank of the Director of the Unit corresponded to the first level of the Director category (D-1), a rank compatible with the responsibilities and functions of the Central Evaluation Unit.

(94) Finally, he reiterated his

thanks to delegates for the keen interest they had shown during the discussion on this agenda item, for their observations on the conduct of evaluation activities and for the support given to so important an aspect of the Organization's work. At the end of the debate, the Commission recommended that the General Conference adopt a draft resolution on item 3.4 (Central Evaluation Unit) (23 C/Resolution 46).

(95) On the basis of the above discussion, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$13,082,200 for Chapter 4 - Services of the Directorate taken as a whole, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$730,700 for programme costs and staff costs, in accordance with the reductions proposed in Annex II of document 23 C/6 Add. and in line with decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 122nd session.

Chapter 5 - Participation in the joint machinery of the United Nations system

(96) Two members of the Commission expressed their strong support for Unesco's participation in the joint machinery of the United Nations system, one of them emphasizing that such machinery fostered greater uniformity in the administrative procedures followed by the various agencies. Another member did not consider that due account had been taken of the reduction in the level of staff and budgetary resources entailed for the Organization in 1986-1987, such levels serving as the basis for the apportionment among the participating agencies of the costs of the joint machinery. In the view of this speaker, the provision of \$967,500 for 1986-1987 should be reduced by at least 10 per cent instead of being maintained at the same level as foreseen in the 1984-1985 budget base before the United States of America withdrew from the Organization. Another speaker considered that the entire amount of the proposed provision for this activity should be placed in reserve under Part IX of the budget. In reply, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration informed the Commission that, while Unesco made every effort to ensure that the growth in the budgets of the joint machinery was kept to the strict minimum, the final decision on this matter fell within the purview of the General Assembly of the United Nations. In the light of the best information available, it was not deemed realistic, or honest, to propose a reduction in the budget estimates for participation in the joint machinery of the United Nations. As to the possibility of the Organization's ceasing its financial participation in the machinery in 1986-1987 and the transfer of the budget provision therefore to Part IX of the budget, such a move would abrogate

previous decisions taken by the General Conference. Moreover, in line with principles of budgeting previously referred to, it was not deemed appropriate to charge the costs of participation in the joint machinery to extra-budgetary resources, given that such expenditure was basic to the proper functioning of the Organization and was, therefore, as a matter of principle, chargeable to the regular programme.

(97) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$967,500 under this Chapter.

ITEM 3.7 - PART IV - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

(98) In his introduction to this Part of the budget, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration stressed that the reductions therein had not been applied evenly, in line with the view expressed by the Executive Board that in making budgetary adjustments, the Director-General should endeavour to retain those services essential to the efficient functioning of the Organization. Moreover, it should be pointed out that the budget and staff resources of the central administrative services had not expanded over the past ten years in proportion to the expansion in other Parts of the budget. This result had been achieved in part through the utilization of computer technology to replace manual operations and the streamlining of certain operations on the basis of experience. Several members of the Commission, while voicing their support for the reductions under this Part of the budget, considered that they were indeed drastic. One of the speakers deemed that the General Administrative Services would set a good example for the rest of the Secretariat in this respect. The Assistant Director-General for General Administration assured the Commission that the reductions had been arrived at after careful soul-searching and examination of their consequences, although it could not be denied that certain of them involved a calculated risk. They also implied a change in services and a reduction in their frequency which was inevitable in the present circumstances. Nevertheless, it should be borne in mind that certain essential services could not be dismantled and were not retractable, such as the payroll operation, which required a fixed level of staff, regardless of the decrease in the overall staffing level of the Organization, in order to ensure the correctness of the payments made to staff.

Chapter 1 - Office of the Assistant Director-General for General Administration

(99) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$602,900 under

this Chapter, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$94,700 for programme costs and staff costs.

Chapter 2 - Bureau of the Comptroller

(100) One member queried the transfer of two General Service posts from the Medical Benefits Fund to the Regular Programme under this Bureau and that of another General Service post under the Bureau of Personnel. The Commission was informed that this was in strict compliance with decision 4.1 adopted by the Executive Board at its 120th session.

(101) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$7,474,200 under this Chapter, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$814,000 for programme costs and staff costs.

Chapter 3 - Bureau of Personnel

(102) A number of speakers expressed their regret that drastic cuts had been made under this Chapter, particularly for the probationers' programme and other recruitment activities (\$340,300, leaving a total of \$45,400 for 1986-1987), staff training activities (\$624,200, leaving \$324,200), social and medical services (\$168,000, leaving \$167,900). One speaker referred to the fact that personnel matters had been examined by such bodies as the advisory committee on personnel matters and the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board in 1984 and 1985, particularly with respect to the improvement of personnel policy, the acceleration of recruitment, the improvement of geographical and geo-cultural distribution and the improvement of career prospects for staff. In this connection, he considered that the action of the Bureau in these fields in 1986-1987, particularly with a view to implementing the reforms proposed by the advisory group and the Temporary Committee, were well reflected in this Chapter. The same speaker expressed the view that staff training programmes should endeavour to retrain staff to improve possibilities for their redeployment. The Commission was informed that this would be done to the extent feasible, bearing in mind the willingness and capacity of staff to avail themselves of retraining opportunities.

(103) On the subject of staff training, one speaker called for a computerization of the staff training data and a tightening up of the system of study-time entitlements to ensure that it served the Organization directly and was not utilized by staff to dabble in hobbies. The same member called for the utilization of computer technology to extend and update the roster. The Commission was assured that efforts would be intensified in 1986-1987 to further computerize the training

operations, within the limits of the funds available, and to continue the updating and pruning of the roster.

(104) Two members of the Commission considered that the proposal in document 23 C/5 to maintain the staff strength of the Bureau at 149 posts in 1986-1987 was inappropriate given the reduction of some 600 - 650 posts in the Organization as a consequence of the withdrawal of the United States of America. They were reminded that in document 23 C/6 Add., Annex II, it was foreseen that 54 work-years of staff (or nearly 27 posts), amounting to \$2,121,500, were proposed for placing in reserve under Part IX.

(105) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$9,656,100 under this Chapter, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$3,329,000 for programme costs and staff costs.

Chapter 4 - Bureau of Data Processing Services

(106) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$4,263,900 under this Chapter, after placing in reserve under Part IX an amount of \$1,221,000 for programme costs and staff costs.

Chapter 5 - Bureau of General Services

(107) At the request of a member of the Commission, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration provided the Commission with information on the steps taken with a view to identifying those responsible for the fires which had been ignited in the Organization's Headquarters premises and the steps taken to avoid a recurrence of such acts. The Commission was also provided with information concerning the temporary assistance and overtime requirements for the Bureau.

(108) The Commission took note of the budget provision of \$3,740,500 under this Chapter, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$1,257,200 for programme costs and staff costs.

(109) On the basis of the above deliberations, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$25,737,600 for Part IV - General Administrative Services, taken as a whole, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$6,715,900 for programme costs and staff costs.

ITEM 3.8 - PART V - COMMON SERVICES

(110) Introducing this Part of the budget, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration informed the Commission that, while Common Services were administratively attached to the Sector for General Administration, the budget provisions under this Part were to cover services provided to the Organ-

ization as a whole. The reduction of \$8,924,300 recommended by the Executive Board in Annex II of document 23 C/6 Add. could only be made at the price of reducing certain services and changing their frequency - several of the existing arrangements were now being renegotiated. In addition, it was envisaged that quotas would have to be established for the sectors, failing which it would not be possible to make the necessary reductions in such items as supplies and materials, communications and freight, and rental and maintenance of premises. Concern was expressed by one member of the Commission that the 84 work-years (or some 42 posts) foreseen for placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget should not affect the safety and security of staff. The Commission was assured that this reduction applied to maintenance staff, given that the 119 posts foreseen under the regular programme for the safety and security services corresponded to the bare minimum required for ensuring the safety of the staff and the permanent delegations and eminent personalities visiting Headquarters, as had been confirmed by a team of security experts who had examined Unesco's requirements in this respect. The security and safety services had been placed under the direct responsibility of the Assistant Director-General for General Administration with a view to reducing the time required for decision-making in response to problems arising involving safety and security.

(111) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$26,500,800 under this Part of the budget, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$8,924,300 for programme costs and staff costs.

ITEM 3.9 - PART VI - CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

(112) After hearing an explanation by the representative of the Director-General of the basis for calculating the rental rates for premises occupied by the permanent delegations, the Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the budget provision of \$1,055,000 under this Part of the Budget, after placing in reserve under Part IX of the budget an amount of \$3,838,000 representing the postponement of the amortization of internal advances to finance construction costs.

ITEM 3.10 - PART VII - APPROPRIATION RESERVE

(113) The Deputy Director-General informed the Commission that, in application of the budgeting techniques used by Unesco, the funds in the Appropriation Reserve were intended to cover increases in the costs of staff and of goods and services during the entire financial period 1986-1987. The amount of \$21,493,000 represented about 5 per

cent of the total of Parts I to VI of the budget, which seemed reasonable in the light of present inflation rates. As in the past, the use of funds in the Appropriation Reserve remained subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

(114) A part of these funds would be transferred to Part IX - Blocked Funds, as a consequence of the reduction of the budget; the exact amount of this transfer would not be known until decisions had been taken by the General Conference on all the other Parts of the budget.

(115) During the discussion, one delegate expressed his satisfaction that the funds to cover inflation costs were placed in a separate Part of the budget and subject to the control of the Executive Board. Referring to the proposed use of a part of the 1984-1985 Appropriation Reserve to balance the budget in view of the withdrawal of a Member State, which was the subject of the Commission's discussion of document 23 C/92, several speakers insisted that this procedure should be considered as exceptional and should not constitute a precedent.

(116) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the amount of \$21,493,000 under Part VII - Appropriation Reserve, it being understood that this figure would be adjusted at the time of the adoption of the Appropriation Resolution.

ITEM 3.11 - PART VIII - CURRENCY
FLUCTUATION

(117) The Deputy Director-General stated that a separate provision for currency fluctuation was an essential part of the constant dollar budgeting technique. Parts I to VII of the budget had been prepared on the basis of exchange rates of 6.45 French and 2.01 Swiss francs to the dollar, but at the time of finalization of the draft budget in February 1985, the operational rates were 9.65 French and 2.67 Swiss francs, with the result that a negative amount of \$88,705,000 had been placed under this Part. This amount had already been revised using the August 1985 exchange rates - 8.75 French and 2.30 Swiss francs, reducing the negative provision to \$69,841,000; a further revision - document 23 C/5 Rev.2 - was under preparation. In this revision the operational rates for October 1985 - 8.10 French and 2.19 Swiss francs - were used, resulting in a further reduction of the negative amount to \$54,018,000. As in the case of the Appropriation Reserve, a part of the provision for currency fluctuation would be transferred to Part IX, but the amount would not be known until final decisions had been taken on other Parts of the budget.

(118) The Deputy Director-General informed the Commission that following the decision of the Executive Board on the question of the refund of any sur-

plus which may arise on this Part of the budget, the Appropriation Resolution would be modified accordingly.

(119) The Commission recommended that the General Conference approve the negative provision under Part VIII - Currency Fluctuation, it being understood that its initial amount of \$88,705,000, already having been modified by 23 C/5 Rev.1 and 23 C/5 Rev.2, would be further adjusted at the time of the adoption of the Appropriation Resolution.

Draft Appropriation Resolution
for 1986-1987

(120) The Deputy Director-General presented document 23 C/ADM/INF.2 which reproduced the text of the Appropriation Resolution as amended to take account of a previous Executive Board decision, the situation caused by the withdrawal of a Member State and the possible withdrawal of others. These amendments concerned:

Paragraph (a): A textual amendment to draw attention to the provisions of paragraph (b).

Paragraph (b): A new paragraph dealing with the procedure to be followed if the announced intention of two Member States to withdraw from the Organization becomes effective. The Deputy Director-General suggested an amendment to the first sentence, replacing the phrase 'identified ... purpose' by 'necessary to meet the financial effects of this withdrawal'.

Footnotes (1) and (2) dealing with the transfer of funds to Part IX.

Paragraph (c) (ii): A change in the text concerning the refund of any surplus accruing in Part VIII - Currency Fluctuation, in accordance with 121 EX/Decision 8.5.

(121) Several speakers expressed their satisfaction that the document assembling all the proposed amendments had been distributed as this made the subject easier to discuss.

(122) Two delegates felt that the title of Part IX - Blocked Funds, was not clear and one suggested changing it to 'Funds blocked for programmes put in abeyance'. Another speaker expressed the view that 'reserve' would be preferable to 'abeyance'.

(123) One speaker disagreed with the amendment to paragraph (b) proposed by the Deputy Director-General on the grounds that it differed from the text of 121 EX/Decision 4.1.

(124) Referring to paragraph (c) (i) concerning the Appropriation Reserve, one delegate felt it was most important to clarify the purposes for which these funds may be used. In his view, only increases due to inflation in the cost of staff and of goods and services could be financed from the Reserve. He suggested that a restriction similar to that concerning the currency fluctuation provision should be included in the paragraph, and that it should be

made clear that paragraphs (e) and (f) of the Appropriation Resolution would not apply to the funds in the Appropriation Reserve.

(125) The Commission took note of the form of the Appropriation Resolution on the understanding that further discussions would take place at the joint meeting of the Administrative and Programme Commissions.

APPENDICES I TO XII

(126) The Commission took note of Appendices I to XII.

ITEM 14.2 - REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL ON THE BUDGETARY SITUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION IN 1985

(127) The Deputy Director-General stated that the Commission had to deal under this item with a 'de facto situation', as the Director-General had mentioned in his Introduction to the General Policy Debate: a reduction of 43 million dollars in income due to the withdrawal of the United States of America.

(128) The fourth special session of the Executive Board had been convened to examine this question and had taken three major steps. Firstly, the Board affirmed that any shortfall arising from withdrawals should not result in any increase in the assessed contributions of any of the Member States. Secondly, the Board stated that Member States could help solve the financial problems of the Organization by making voluntary contributions. Thirdly, the Board invited the Director-General to make the adjustments necessary to reduce the Organization's expenditure to the fullest extent possible. The Director-General had submitted reports to the 121st and 122nd sessions of the Board, where this question was fully discussed.

(129) Document 23 C/91 gave details of the measures which had been taken in this respect. As far as contributions are concerned, over \$9 million had been pledged of which some \$6 million had been paid. The action taken by the Director-General to bring down the Organization's expenditure had resulted in reductions of \$18 million in the programme and \$7 million in staff costs through the freezing of posts. The programme had been reduced to the fullest extent possible; activities had, however, been maintained in all fields of endeavour of the Organization.

(130) The Deputy Director-General gave examples of programme reductions and added that a number of details of curtailments, postponements, etc. were reflected in document 23 C/11 (Statement and evaluation of the major impacts, achievements, difficulties and shortfalls for each continuing programme activity in 1984-1985). In spite of these reductions and the significant amount of

voluntary contributions pledged, a further amount of some \$9 million was needed to meet the shortfall. For its part, the Executive Board at its 121st session had noted 'that a part of the Appropriation Reserve (Part VII) which is intended to cover increases in staff costs and in the costs of goods and services on account of inflation, will not be transferred to that purpose because of the economies and absorption of cost increases in Parts I to VI, but that the part not transferred could be deemed as economies to balance the budget in view of the withdrawal of a Member State'; (121 EX/Decision 8.1). At its 122nd session, the Board had recommended 'that the General Conference should consider whether part of the unused portion of the Appropriation Reserve (Part VII) should be used to balance the budget, after all other measures have been taken to the fullest extent possible'. (122 EX/Decision 8.3).

(131) Continuing his explanation, the Deputy Director-General advised the Commission that the Appropriation Reserve 'may be used by the Director-General, with the approval of the Executive Board, for the purpose of meeting increases arising in the course of the biennium, in accordance with the decision of the General Conference, in staff costs included under Parts I to VI of the budget, and increases arising in the course of the biennium in the cost of goods and services budgeted for under Parts I to VI of the budget' but not for extending or increasing programme activities. The initial provision under Part VII of the 1984-1985 budget was \$29,387,000 and during the biennium only \$9,528,000 had been used. In view of the inflation rates, much larger amounts could have been transferred out of the Reserve, but the Director-General had decided, as part of the austerity measures, that inflation costs should be absorbed to the maximum extent possible by the programme budgets. The table in paragraph 13 of document 23 C/91 showed the amount of inflation transfers which could have been made had the normal procedures operated in 1984-1985.

(132) The Deputy Director-General drew attention to travel costs, the costs of publications and other contractual services which, as shown in the table, had been subject to increases due to inflation but for which no extra funds had been provided. One of the main reasons for retaining the funds in the Appropriation Reserve was that the transfer of the funds to sectors would have resulted in a reduction in budgetary control. He also pointed out that in the case of staff costs the balances remaining in the Reserve were due to the freezing of some posts and the large number of posts deliberately left vacant. The total amount of unclaimed inflation was over \$9 million and the Director-General considered that it

would be appropriate for the General Conference to authorize a maximum amount of \$9,074,500 from the Appropriation Reserve to balance the 1984-1985 budget.

(133) Most of the 29 delegates who took part in the discussion on this item expressed their support for the draft resolution submitted in document 23 C/91. Many of them felt that the General Conference should express its appreciation of the measures taken by the Director-General to meet the shortfall, which was the direct result of the withdrawal of the United States of America.

(134) In the opinion of some delegates, the programme reductions had been carried out to the fullest extent possible. In their opinion it was unrealistic to believe that there was no limit to the reductions that could be made. On the other hand, several delegates expressed the view that more savings could still be effected in the remaining weeks of the biennium. One delegate maintained that the reduction exercise should have commenced at the time, or even before, the Member State withdrew from the Organization, thereby achieving considerably higher savings.

(135) As to the use of funds in the Appropriation Reserve to cover a part of the shortfall, many delegates recalled the Executive Board's decision which recommended that any shortfall arising from withdrawals should not result in any increase in the assessed contribution of any of the Member States. Several speakers considered, however, that as shown in the table in document 23 C/91, a large amount of funds which might have been transferred to cover inflation costs had been deliberately left in the Reserve and the proposed use was permissible. One speaker pointed out that if these funds were not authorized to cover the shortfall, there might be a deficit on Parts I to VI of the budget and the Director-General would have to submit supplementary estimates while there was a surplus in the Appropriation Reserve. However, another delegate stated that as in accordance with the Financial Regulations, any balance on the Reserve should be returned to Member States, the suggested use contravened the Board's decision and overturned one of the principal Unesco reforms.

(136) The Deputy Director-General confirmed that the programme could not be reduced indefinitely. If it were to remain coherent it could not be subjected to mechanical reductions. Progress in the implementation of programme activities had to be carefully examined including, where applicable, the involvement of outside bodies. However, the programme would continue to be carried out in the most economical way and everything would be done to ensure that any possible savings would be made until the end of the biennium. A certain amount would, however, be needed from the Appropriation Reserve to balance the

budget, and an upper limit should be fixed by the General Conference, even though the full amount might not be required. The maximum figure mentioned in the document could be justified by the fact that it represented undrawn inflation costs. The Deputy Director-General considered that such use of the funds was in line with the provisions of the Appropriation Resolution and the Executive Board's decision that any shortfall arising from withdrawals should not result in any increase in the assessed contributions of any of the Member States.

(137) On the question of voluntary contributions, the Commission was gratified to see that some \$9 million had been pledged. It was felt, however, that a further appeal could be made urging Member States which have not made a contribution to do so, and that the draft resolution should be amended to that effect.

(138) Several speakers referred to the table showing details of unclaimed inflation and expressed their general satisfaction with it. In reply to questions, the Deputy Director-General stated that it showed the inflation for the whole financial period. It was not based on anticipated inflation rates, as in the case of the Appropriation Reserve for 1984-1985, but on the inflation rates recorded during the biennium - the same rates as those used for calculating the amount of the recosting of the 1984-1985 budget. The inflation rates had been applied to the approved budget figures as it was not possible to take actual expenditure or income into account. He stressed that the figure of some \$9 million was, of course, not an absolute figure but gave a close indication of the amount of inflation which might have been withdrawn from the Reserve.

(139) The Commission was also given details of the breakdown by grade of the 155 Professional posts frozen in 1984-1985 and further information concerning programme reductions in Major Programmes III and XIII.

(140) Several speakers drew attention to the fact that if further voluntary contributions were received and if additional savings were made, the amount of funds required from the Appropriation Reserve would be less than the maximum figure of \$9,074,500 included in the draft resolution.

(141) The representative of Japan doubted that all possible reductions had been made and stated that his Government could not agree to the proposals in the document.

(142) The Commission then considered amendments to the draft resolution and agreed by consensus to recommend that the General Conference adopt the resolution on item 14.2 (23 C/Resolution 37).

(143) The delegate of Switzerland made the following reservation:

'Switzerland did not wish to stand in the way of the general consensus but wishes to express the following reservation: Because of exceptional circumstances, an exceptional procedure has been followed to absorb the inflation costs for the 1984-1985 biennium, over and above the normal procedure provided for in the Appropriation Resolution for 1984-1985 (22 C/Resolution 16, I.A (b) (i)).

Switzerland does not appreciate this way of proceeding. It considers it essential that this procedure should remain exceptional and that in future the normal procedure should be applied'.

(144) The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that his joining the consensus represented a major concession by his Government and wished that the same reservation as that of Switzerland be placed on record.

ITEM 14.3 - ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ACCOUNT FOR FINANCING END-OF-SERVICE AND TERMINATION INDEMNITIES

(145) Introducing this item, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration referred to the report (121 EX/48) submitted by the Director-General to the 121st session of the Executive Board, in which he had made a number of suggestions for adjustments to document 23 C/5 in order to meet the shortfall resulting from the withdrawal of the United States of America. In particular, this document mentioned the possibility of creating a fund for end-of-service grants and indemnities payable to staff upon termination or non-renewal of contracts as a consequence of budget reductions due to the withdrawal of a Member State. Subsequently, the Board had requested the Director-General to submit a more detailed report to its 122nd session on the operation of such a fund, the amount it required, its financing and any precedents (121 EX/Decision 4.1 B, paragraph 8). The Director-General had submitted this report to the Board in document 122 EX/33 (annex to 23 C/92).

(146) At its 122nd session, the Board examined this report and recommended that the General Conference include an item on this subject on the agenda of its twenty-third session. The Board adopted a decision which, while regretting the necessity for staff separations, noted with approval that, in paying separation indemnities, the Director-General would be governed by the relevant staff regulations and rules and would take account of the principles of equity, legal practice and precedents in Unesco and in other organizations of the United Nations system. It noted also that no budget provision existed for the payment of indemnities on the scale foreseen and that Unesco unlike some organizations of the United Nations system, had no terminal benefits fund.

(147) Taking into account that it

was not possible at this stage to provide accurate estimates of the cost of future grants and indemnities, the Executive Board had nevertheless recommended that the General Conference authorize the financing of a special account to be established by the Director-General for this purpose, by one or a combination of the following:

from economies that might arise from the execution of the programme for 1986-1987 without affecting its level or integrity;

from the excess in Miscellaneous Income for 1984-1985, by suspending Financial Regulations 5.2 (b) and 7.1 until 31 December 1987;

from unapportioned budget surpluses by suspending Financial Regulations 4.3 and 4.4 until 31 December 1987.

(148) When document 122 EX/33 was prepared for the Executive Board, the Secretariat had estimated that the total number of posts which could be identified as being associated with second priority activities were 300 for Part II.A and between 150 and 200 for the other Parts of the Budget, or a total of between 450 and 500 posts.

(149) However, in order to maintain the maximum number of existing staff, all possibilities were being studied, such as redeployment to other posts, the encouragement of early retirement, special leave without pay, part-time work, transfer to extra-budgetary posts and other agencies for re-assignment and the return of persons to government functions. Even after all these measures had been thoroughly explored, it could not be excluded that some staff would have to be separated and some contracts not renewed, which would entail additional expenditure. This was likely to be in excess of the amount included in the budget for staff turnover and additional resources would therefore be required to meet these exceptional costs.

(150) Document 122 EX/33 also explained the conditions for the payment of end-of-service grants, which took into account the type and duration of appointments and the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules of Unesco. At that time, on the basis of estimates, which were still incomplete since individual factors, such as grade, type of appointment, length of service and age, were still unknown, it was assumed that if 150 staff were to be separated, the total additional cost to the Organization could be approximately \$5 million. However, based upon current data, 69 Professional and 131 General Service staff members might have to be terminated, in which case costs would range from \$8.5 million to \$12.1 million. More accurate estimates would only be available after the conclusion of the General Conference, when the Director-General would prepare a further document for the Executive Board, containing new and complete data indicating the portion of the

costs chargeable to 1984-1985 and to the 1986-1987 budget.

(151) With respect to the financing of the amounts required, the Director-General had identified four possibilities (122 EX/33, paragraph 18):

reduction of programme and related appropriations;

supplementary estimates;

use of unapportioned budget surpluses;

use of the excess of miscellaneous income over the original estimates included in the budget.

(152) The reduction of the current programme and budget, or of that for 1986-1987, implied severe consequences in view of the magnitude of the reductions already made and the adjustments presently being recommended. Financing from economies which might arise from the execution of the programme for 1986-1987 without affecting its level or integrity, as had presently been proposed by four Member States in draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.2, was most unlikely. The question could be asked as to how to handle this matter if economies did not arise and whether it would be prudent or a sound financial practice to provide for definitive expenditure from a tentative or indefinite source.

(153) As to the proposal for the use of supplementary estimates under Articles 3.8 and 3.9 of the Financial Regulations, no member of the Executive Board, when it had discussed this question at its 122nd session, had been in favour of this means of financing the special account.

(154) Unapportioned budget surpluses amounted to \$15.9 million as of 10 October 1985, of which \$9.6 million could be related to currency fluctuation and \$6.3 million to other budgetary surpluses. Should the General Conference decide that the whole, or part of the amount for financing the fund should come from this source, it would be necessary to suspend Articles 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations which would require a two-thirds majority decision of the General Conference.

(155) The fourth possibility comprised using the excess of Miscellaneous Income over the estimates. It was expected that by 31 December 1985 the surplus would amount to some \$15 million. Members of the Commission were aware that this amount, in accordance with Article 5.2(b) of the Financial Regulations, would be surrendered to Member States in a subsequent year as a reduction in the assessment for 1988-1989. The use of these funds would entail the suspension of Articles 5.2(b) and 7.1 of the Financial Regulations, for which a two-thirds majority decision of the General Conference was also required.

(156) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration stated in conclusion that should the General Conference authorize the financing of a special account, the Director-General would prepare the necessary

financial regulations for the Executive Board at its Spring session in 1986. The account could be used up until the end of the 1986-1987 financial period and its longterm use would be studied should it be needed thereafter.

(157) Introducing draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.2, one of the co-sponsors explained that the proposal was based largely on the Executive Board's 122 EX/Decision 8.5, with the exception of the word 'common' before the reference to the United Nations system in the operative preambular paragraph. The main emphasis was placed only on financing of the fund from savings since the special session of the Board (4 X/EX/Decision 2.2) had recommended that any shortfall arising from a Member State's withdrawal should not result in an increase in the assessed contributions of the remaining Member States. Of the three options suggested by the Board only the first was proper, the sponsors felt, because the other two entailed increased contributions from Member States. Savings to finance the fund would occur as there was normally a considerable amount of slippage in the implementation of the Organization's programme. Moreover, the 1986-1987 budget had a complete provision for inflation on first priority activities thus the Appropriation Reserve was in a 'comfortable' position due to the use of a full budgeting concept. He pointed out that the sponsors were not suggesting reductions in the programme, but using economies arising in the implementation of the programme. The other options would require the suspension of Financial Regulations which the General Conference should not normally authorize. He concluded that his country had joined the consensus in the Executive Board because it knew that the final decision on this matter was to be taken by the General Conference.

(158) The same speaker wondered why the initial cost estimate of the fund had risen from \$5 million to a range of between \$8.5 million and \$12.1 million. In any event, he thought that definitive amounts for the fund could not be estimated at this stage.

(159) In presenting the Director-General's oral comments on the draft resolution, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration explained that the insertion of the word 'common' into the Executive Board's text could change considerably the meaning of the Board's decision, since some aspects of the United Nations system were 'common' and other aspects were not he stated further that the assessed contributions of Member States should not be considered as being increased because a budget surplus was not distributed since contributions in the first instance could be considered as assessed on the basis of budget appropriation and surpluses became due only later after they occurred and were apportioned to Member States. Perhaps there was sometimes a

slippage in programme implementation but budget surpluses had resulted from other favourable circumstances such as fluctuation in the exchange rates or deliberate decisions to limit budget expenditures to remain within a predetermined target. However, the budget for 1986-1987 had to absorb the full cost of the lapse factor, of about \$10 million, because the total number of posts included in the budget would most likely be reduced considerably. Consequently there would be no vacancies, or very few, from which the lapse factor could be obtained in the biennium.

(160) The reason for the increased estimated cost of the terminal benefits resulted from a re-examination of the estimates used to reflect more recent data. It was now estimated that the number of staff likely to be separated would increase from 150 to 200. For staff who would have to be separated in 1986, salaries for at least three months had to be paid and charged to the fund and this had not been taken into account in the earlier estimates.

(161) In the debate that followed, 17 speakers took the floor, all of whom felt that the issue under discussion was of considerable importance to the Secretariat, to those staff members that would be directly concerned, and to the Organization as a whole. Most delegates expressed their deep regrets over the possible loss of devoted and competent international civil servants who had become the victims of the withdrawal of a Member State. While the matter was a complex and very complicated one, it had to be treated with compassion, delicacy and prudence. Since other Member States might also withdraw, the dimensions of the problem might be enlarged considerably.

(162) Several members of the Commission, while agreeing that this did not come directly under the purview of the agenda item under discussion, emphasized the importance of applying the correct criteria in the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules when deciding on staff separation. One delegate insisted that competence, integrity, seniority and efficiency were the principal criteria in this respect. Another delegate stressed that decisions must be equitable, fair and just; the universality of the Organization's staff had to be maintained and the highest standards had to be preserved.

(163) One delegate was of the opinion that the 'humanitarian' and 'ex gratia' considerations contained in the report on the payment of indemnities were incongruous, since the question was quite simply one of paying all the indemnities due to the members of staff, in accordance with the provisions of the Staff Regulations and Staff Rules, the principles of equity and the jurisprudence of the international tribunals. One member of the Commission underlined

in this connection that this factor was particularly relevant in an organization like Unesco, where a comparatively high proportion of staff members held fixed-term appointments instead of indeterminate appointments.

(164) The Commission, while endorsing the principle of adequate termination payments, was divided as to the necessity of financing a special fund for the payment of end-of-service grants and indemnities. Some members considered that the funds required should be obtained directly from the approved regular budget of the Organization. Other members felt that it was clear that the Organization was required to pay termination indemnities, whether they were paid from a special fund or from another source. Some members were of the view that it was clearly the prerogative of the Director-General to establish the most appropriate technical machinery to pay termination indemnities but that the funds must be provided by Member States. Further studies of the financial and organizational arrangements to deal with the problem were also advocated by a few members.

(165) The cost of end-of-service grants and termination indemnities was of particular concern to many members of the Commission. One delegate felt that the most recent estimate, indicated by the Secretariat as in the vicinity of \$10 million, was realistic and should be retained as the probable ceiling for the fund. Another member stated that a realistic figure could not be established without more complete and detailed data on the specific staff members for whom termination was now being considered. The delegate questioned the sudden rise from \$5 million to \$8 or \$12 million and felt that it was urgent for the Secretariat to determine the real costs involved in the terminations. A sizeable reduction should be achieved, this delegate felt, through the development of a comprehensive redeployment plan and the immediate freeze of all outside recruitment, unless very exceptional situations made that unavoidable. The same delegate did not understand why the Secretariat was making supplementary provision for 'litigation': according to that delegate, the only proper course was to settle all the cases of separation in a just and equitable way, which would obviate litigation. The International Labour Organisation however, had succeeded in dealing with a similar situation without having contested terminations taken to the tribunal, because amicable separation arrangements were negotiated with most staff members.

(166) The urgency of establishing the definitive list of those staff to be separated and the consequential costs for the Organization was stressed by several speakers who believed that due attention should be given to special problems arising because of the

different types of staff contracts. The Secretariat was requested to provide a draft timetable for action on the necessary separations. One member of the Commission noted that the situation could be aggravated by the withdrawal of other Member States, thus entailing budget reductions of perhaps 30 per cent and not 25 per cent as presently envisaged. It was important that contingency plans be drawn up covering this eventuality.

(167) One delegate believed that the estimated average costs of grants and indemnities for staff separated from Unesco would permit the construction of eight new schools in his country. To him, it was not evident that other Member States should be held financially responsible for the costs associated with the withdrawal from membership of a Member State, notwithstanding the exigencies of individual and collective solidarity.

(168) Almost all delegates who spoke on the terminal benefits fund expressed their views on the question as to how it should be financed. While the use of supplementary estimates under Articles 3.8 and 3.9 of the Financial Regulations was not supported, some speakers insisted on the exclusive use of savings generated from programme implementation. The majority of those who spoke were in favour of the combination of: (i) savings from programme implementation; (ii) the excess of miscellaneous income over the estimates made, approving the suspension of Financial Regulations 5.2(b) and 7.1 until 31 December 1987; and (iii) using unapportioned budget surpluses, by suspending Financial Regulations 4.3 and 4.4 until 31 December 1987.

(169) One member of the Commission emphasized in introducing draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.3 that it could realistically be assumed that for the financing of the estimated amount of \$10 million required for the fund, \$2 million could be obtained through programme savings without affecting the 1986-1987 programme level or its integrity, \$4 million from miscellaneous income and \$4 million from undistributed budget surpluses. It was felt that it would be unreasonable to expect more than \$2 million in programme savings (slippage), since the budget situation would certainly be very critical in 1986-1987 when a substantial amount of savings would be required to absorb the costs associated with the lapse factor. The exceptional and drastic reductions made in 1984-1985 could not be repeated in the following biennium. If the use of budget savings was excluded, then the General Conference would have no other alternative but to reduce the programme further, or the end-of-service grants and termination indemnities could not be paid to the staff members involved. This point of view was shared by most speakers. Another delegate said,

however, that his instructions left him no room for flexibility on this question: there had to be either programme savings or programme reductions.

(170) While expressing their preference for the options using miscellaneous income and/or unappropriated budget surpluses, a number of delegates indicated their willingness to include the use of programme savings as one of the three sources from which the financing of the fund could be obtained. Others, however, found the use of programme savings undesirable, hazardous or much too risky.

(171) The suspension of articles of the Financial Regulations posed a problem for some speakers. They objected to this proposal on the basis of the principle that such regulations should be adhered to. Another speaker saw no difficulty for the General Conference suspending the Financial Regulations: to do so lay fully within its constitutional authority.

(172) Four delegates stated that they could not agree with any options requiring an increase in Member States' assessed contributions since they felt that this solution had not met with the approval of the Executive Board (4 X/EX/Decision 2, II, paragraph 6). The use of miscellaneous income or of unapportioned budget surpluses would, in that manner, reduce the refunds due to Member States, thereby increasing indirectly the contribution of Member States to the budget of the Organization.

(173) Considering the complex nature of the problem under study, and the severe consequences for staff members who might be affected by the budget reductions approved by the General Conference, some speakers concluded that a consensus on the financing of a terminal benefits fund was possible and should be worked towards by the Commission.

(174) The representatives of the Unesco staff associations were each authorized by the Commission to make a statement and to express views on the agenda item before it. The representative of the Staff Association (STA) said that the terminal benefits fund proposed by the Director-General should be established, that the amount of such a fund would be insufficient if appeals were made against arbitrary dismissals, that the primary purpose of such a fund should be to provide indemnities for negotiated separations, that the holders of fixed-term contracts that were not renewed after several years of service should be compensated in accordance with the law, and that the fund should not be financed by fresh reductions in staff costs leading to further dismissals.

(175) The representative of the International Staff Association of Unesco (ISAU) said that the establishment of a fund was a requirement deriving from the Regulations and rules governing separation from service through the termination or the non-renewal of contracts.

The Director-General's proposals which sought to extend the benefits of such compensation to holders of fixed-term and temporary contracts despite the provisions of Staff Rules 104.6 and 104.8 not only took account of the human aspect of the problem, but also observed a contractual obligation based on precedent and on what the administrative tribunals called 'a legitimate expectation of the renewal of contracts'. Lastly, he pointed out that the financing of the fund could not be based on resources derived from the programme without further aggravating the situation of the Organization, which would be placed in a vicious circle: programme reduction, post reductions, staff reductions and the need to finance further separations.

(176) Replying to the questions raised in the debate, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration reiterated that it was clearly the Organization's responsibility to pay the termination indemnities due to any staff members separated. Moreover, the Director-General would apply the relevant regulations and rules established by the General Conference correctly. While the necessary funds could be obtained from the Organization's regular programme, it would be extremely difficult to achieve the necessary amount only from programme savings because it was certain that all authorized posts would be filled in 1986-1987, thereby creating a special problem in meeting the deficit needed to cover the lapse factor. It was necessary for budget savings to be used for that purpose in the first instance. The Director-General had previously told the Executive Board that supplementary estimates may have to be requested if a deficit occurred on account of insufficient appropriations to cover the lapse factor.

(177) In response to the query as to why outside recruitment had not been stopped after the withdrawal of a Member State had taken effect, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration explained to the Commission that outside candidates had only been appointed in a few exceptional and special cases, examples were for the language services, several senior posts, after consultation with the Executive Board, candidates from non- or seriously under-represented Member States and for operational projects and established offices away from Headquarters.

(178) Based on the assumption that about 200 staff members (69 Professional and 131 General Service) may have to be separated, the cost of end-of-service grants and indemnities was estimated at \$3.2 million, authorized repatriation grants at \$1.2 million, repatriation travel at \$1.5 million and the cost of accumulated annual leave at \$0.6 million, making a total of \$6.5 million.

To this, an amount of about \$2 million would have to be added for salary costs for 3 months in 1986 if termination notices were given on 1 January 1986, or about \$4 million if termination notice was given only on 1 April 1986. Staff Rule 109.7(d) provided that the Director-General may authorize an increase of 50 per cent in the termination indemnity, in order to facilitate an agreed termination, thereby protecting the Organization against possible claims and contests before the tribunals arising from termination. The costs of facilitating agreed terminations could amount to as much as \$1.6 million. Consequently, the estimate of between \$8.5 million and \$12.1 million could be explained as follows:

End of service grants and indemnities	\$3.2 million
Repatriation grants	1.2 million
Repatriation travel	1.5 million
Accumulated annual leave	0.6 million
Payment in lieu of notice under Staff Rule 109.6(d) (Notice on 1 January 1986)	2.0 million
Subtotal	<u>\$ 8.5 million</u>
Additional payment in lieu of notice under Staff Rule 109.6(d) (Notice on 1 April 1986)	2.0 million
	<u>\$10.5 million</u>
Cost of facilitating agreed terminations (50 per cent increase in indemnities in some cases)	<u>\$ 1.6 million</u>
Estimated total cost involved	<u>\$12.1 million</u>

(179) In conclusion, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration stated that the Director-General himself did not want to separate any staff members. However if the General Conference approved a reduced 23 C/5, the Director-General would endeavour to redeploy and re-assign the maximum number of staff members possible. If terminations were inevitable by virtue of the General Conference's action, the Director-General would carry out his tasks in the efficient and proper manner that he always did in exercising his responsibilities and functions.

(180) As the end of the discussion on this item, the Commission agreed to defer taking its decision on the two proposed draft resolutions (23 C/ADM/DR.3 and DR.4) until the day of the adoption of its report. To this end, it decided to set up an open-ended informal working group composed of six members. The Commission endorsed the proposals formulated by the informal group and decided to recommend to the General Conference for adoption the draft resolution on item 14.3 (23 C/Resolution 38).

PART III

ITEM 8 - METHODS OF WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION

ITEM 8.1 - REVIEW OF BUDGETING TECHNIQUES (VALUE OF THE CONSTANT DOLLAR) FOR FUTURE BIENNIA

(181) The Deputy Director-General informed the Commission that document 23 C/35 and Add. was submitted in response to 120 EX/Decisions 3.1.1 and 5.1.2 which emanated from the recommendations made by the Consultative Working Group on Budgeting Techniques and Budget Presentation established by the Director-General in July 1984 and endorsed by the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board. These decisions invited the Director-General to prepare document 23 C/5 on the basis of the constant dollar principle but also to submit a set of 'parallel documentation' which would assist the General Conference in deciding whether the constant dollar principle should be continued or whether future C/5 documents should be prepared on the basis of the current dollar. In deciding on this matter, the General Conference should bear in mind the need for clarity, reality and comparability in the budget.

(182) The Deputy Director-General explained that the parallel documentation comprised a series of tables showing the presentation of the budget in the existing constant dollar form and in the proposed current dollar form. The first table was a recapitulation of Appendix I of document 23 C/5 showing the budget in constant dollar values. The second table reproduced Appendix IV, which had been prepared for the first time in response to the Working Group's recommendation. The third table showed the budget base and the 1986-1987 proposals revalued to the exchange rates of 9.65 French and 2.67 Swiss francs, but without distribution of inflation in 1986-1987 to the appropriation lines. Finally, the fourth table, taking Major Programme III as an example, showed the budget provisions in both constant and current dollar terms. Following the discussion at the 122nd session of the Executive Board, a new table, which combined the figures in the second and third tables had been produced and was submitted in document 23 C/35 Add.

(183) The Deputy Director-General recalled that the Executive Board had given precise instructions as to the choice of the exchange rates to be used for calculating Part VIII - Currency Fluctuation in document 23 C/5. The initial calculation had been made on the basis of the exchange rates of the French and Swiss francs prevailing in the month preceding the completion of the draft budget, and the final calculation was to be made using the rates prevailing in the month preceding that

in which the budget was adopted by the General Conference. He also explained that in the tables the term 'Recosted' meant that the cost of inflation in 1984-1985 (\$39,453,000) had been distributed to all the figures in the budget, and 'Revalued' meant that the amount of currency fluctuation had likewise been distributed.

(184) The 21 delegates who participated in the debate agreed that this important question should be referred back to the Executive Board for further study as the Board itself had suggested. Many speakers mentioned that the constant dollar principle had been applied for many years and that it should not be abandoned without a thorough study.

(185) Several delegates commented on the question of comparability of budget figures as opposed to the realism of the cost estimates in the budget. One delegate stated that the figures in document 23 C/5 were out of line with reality, being distorted by a total of over \$88 million, the amount of the currency fluctuation provision. He felt that it was urgent to change the system and to use either the current dollar or the variable constant dollar, the value of which would be changed for each biennium. He considered that it would not be difficult to show comparability under either system and stated that if the constant dollar value were nearer to reality, the amount of the provision for currency fluctuation would be much smaller.

(186) Other speakers found that the figures in the budget were unrealistic, and that this made the proposals difficult to understand by the national authorities. On the other hand, several delegates maintained that the principal advantage of the constant dollar system was that it provided comparability between biennial programmes, which was very important. The lack of realism in the figures was not a fault of the system but of the monetary instability.

(187) Some felt that while a current dollar or a variable constant dollar system would give figures which were more realistic at the time the budget was prepared, large variations in exchange rates could lead to the figures being unrealistic at the time of its adoption. Some drew attention to the considerable amount of work which would be necessary to revise all the budget estimates in order to make them more realistic at the time of examination of the budget by the General Conference, whereas under the present system only Part VIII needs to be changed. The major difficulty was aptly summed up by one delegate who said that the current dollar does not remain constant.

(188) Many delegates expressed their appreciation of the parallel documentation which provided the advantages of both systems by showing the budget in terms of both constant dollars and re-valued constant dollars. Two delegates suggested that the use of the constant dollar be continued. In addition, summaries might be produced based on the current dollar. Another delegate suggested that the budget might be prepared on the basis of current dollars and that parallel tables showing the constant dollar equivalents be appended. The Deputy Director-General stated that this latter suggestion was feasible as long as requirements were limited to tables relating to the overall budget, such as those included in document 23 C/35. If more detailed tables were required, this would entail a considerable amount of extra work.

(189) Some speakers favoured the retention of the same constant dollar exchange rates throughout the Medium-Term Plan, and one felt that even if the Executive Board pronounced itself in favour of a current or variable constant dollar system, this should be introduced only in 1990 when the new Medium-Term Plan begins.

(190) A delegate suggested that the Swiss franc should be excluded from currency fluctuation calculations in view of the insignificant effect on the budget of variations in the exchange rate of this currency. The delegate had earlier suggested that in view of the small number of payments made in Swiss francs, that currency no longer be used in budgetary calculations. The Deputy Director-General replied that this suggestion could be included in the further studies to be carried out by the Executive Board.

(191) Recalling that the question of budgeting techniques had already been studied at length in the Executive Board, one speaker suggested that, in referring this item back to the Board, the General Conference should authorize the Board to decide as to which system should be used in future. In reply to a question, the representative of the Legal Adviser confirmed that the General Conference was empowered by the Constitution to delegate such authority to the Executive Board but on the understanding that such delegation of authority would be strictly limited to specified purposes. One of the delegates warned against creating any conflicts between the Executive Board and the General Conference.

(192) At the conclusion of the debate, the Commission decided unanimously to recommend that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 8.1 (23 C/Resolution 47).

ITEM 8.2 - METHODS OF WORK OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(193) Introducing document 23 C/36

on the invitation of the Chairman, the Secretary of the General Conference indicated that all the provisions contained in paragraph 7 of 121 EX/Decision 3.2.1 of the Executive Board (reproduced in Annex II of the document under consideration) had already been approved, on a preliminary and ad hoc basis, by the General Conference when it endorsed the whole set of recommendations put forward in document 23 C/2 concerning the organization of the work of the twenty-third session of the General Conference. Some of them had actually been implemented, with good results, during this and the previous sessions, through suspension of the relevant existing rules in conformity with Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure. It was therefore for the Commission to decide on the advisability of formally incorporating in the existing rules the new provisions envisaged in paragraph 7(c) and 7(d) of Annex II of document 23 C/36.

(194) It was understood, at the opening of the discussion, that the Commission was to examine the substance of the proposed amendments in paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, while the legal Committee would deal in due course with their legal aspects.

(195) The Commission noted that paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b) were only a reminder of organizational aspects of the current session.

(196) of the amendments suggested in paragraph 7(c) and 7(d), the proposed change in Rule 78A, paragraph 3, was the only one that raised some objection. A number of speakers found that the formal introduction of a time limit of five days for submitting the draft resolutions and amendments concerned would constitute a rigid provision and an impediment for delegations. It was decided that it could be made more flexible by adding the phrase: 'As a general rule, ...'.

(197) In connection with Rule 13 bis (new) of the Rules for the Conduct of Elections by Secret Ballot, one member, while agreeing with the proposed amendment, felt that it would be proper to consider extending this new provision to bodies other than those covered by Rule 30, paragraph 5, of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

(198) In the course of the discussions, a number of questions not directly connected with the proposed amendments were also commented upon by several members of the Commission: the advisability of conducting a consultation of Member States with a view to evaluating the organizational and methodological aspects of the work of the twenty-third session; the importance of the continuation by the Executive Board of its study on the role of the governing bodies; focusing the work of programme commissions on a number of important topics; methods of presenting the C/5 document to the General Conference; giving the General Conference all

necessary means of meeting with its constitutional obligations; division, linkage and co-ordination of work between the Executive Board and the General Conference and role of the Chairman of the Board in respect of the latter; membership of the General Committee by the Chairman of the Headquarters Committee; right of vote for the Chairman of the Drafting and Negotiation Group in the General Committee; apportioning of parts and major programmes of the C/5 document among programme commissions; and language versions of the Journal of the General Conference.

(199) The Secretary of the General Conference replied to the questions raised during the debate. With regard to the reduction in the volume of documentation, he made it clear that the Executive Board, at its 121st session, had not endorsed the suggestion by the Secretariat to amend Rule 55 of the Rules of Procedure in order that the Journal of the General Conference be issued in English and French only.

(200) At the close of its debate, the Commission agreed to recommend to the General Conference, subject to favourable advice from the Legal Committee, to adopt the draft resolution on item 8.2 (23 C/Resolution 31.1).

ITEM 8.3 - CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERING INVITATIONS REGARDING THE HOLDING OF SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS, AND QUESTION OF THE FREQUENCY OF SUCH SESSIONS

(201) Introducing document 23 C/37 at the invitation of the Chairman, the Secretary of the General Conference pointed out that the Board, in pursuance of a decision taken at its 117th session, had studied this question at its 120th session on the basis of document 120 EX/6 (Annex I of document 23 C/37) and adopted 120 EX/Decision 3.4.1 on the matter (Annex II of document 23 C/37) in the form of a recommendation addressed to the General Conference.

(202) The object of that decision was not to amend the rules concerning the location of the General Conference but to interpret them by conferring exceptional status on the holding of sessions of the General Conference away from Headquarters, while providing that examination of invitations to hold such sessions should take into account a certain number of considerations based on acquired experience.

(203) Following a brief exchange of views, during which the flexibility of the measures recommended by the Executive Board was clearly brought out, the Commission adopted an amendment proposed by one of its members and decided to close the debate on the matter.

(204) The Commission recommended to the General Conference to adopt the draft resolution on item 8.3 (23 C/Resolution 49).

ITEM 8.4 - WIDER USE OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

(205) In his brief introduction of document 23 C/38, the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support reminded the Commission of the measures taken during the preceding budgetary periods in the implementation of 20 C/Resolution 38.1, 21 C/Resolution 41.1 and 22 C/Resolution 47.1, all of which had invited the Director-General to ensure that Russian would gradually attain the same status enjoyed by the more widely used working languages of the Organization. Despite the economies imposed by the difficulties that Unesco had to face, in 1984-1985 the Director-General had continued to apply the measures already taken in 1981-1983, especially as regards the production of documents, periodicals and publications in Russian and the improvement of the quality of simultaneous interpretation from and into Russian in Unesco's meetings and conferences.

(206) The Chairman then invited the delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to introduce draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.1 concerning wider use of the Russian language.

(207) While recognizing the difficulties encountered by the Director-General as regards the full implementation of 22 C/Resolution 47.1, the delegate of the USSR regretted that some publications in Russian foreseen in the 1984-1985 publications plan had not appeared and that two posts of proof-readers of Russian publications had remained vacant during the same period, the corresponding budget allocations being utilized to employ supernumerary personnel working on other publications.

(208) Commenting on the draft resolution, the Assistant Director-General pointed out that in 1984-1985 the workload in Russian of the copy preparation and proof-reading unit of the Office of the Unesco Press had amounted to only a quarter of a Professional post and that, for this reason and in the interests of economy, the two permanent posts foreseen in the budget had not been established. As to the staffing of the Russian Translation Section, he was able to report that the situation was not as critical as the draft resolution indicated, four appointments to vacant posts having been made since the draft resolution had been submitted in August 1985.

(209) After hearing the observations by the Assistant Director-General, the delegate of the USSR proposed several amendments to draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.1, which was then commented upon by a number of members of the Commission.

(210) Many speakers stressed the increasing role played by the Russian language as a means of developing international exchanges and of enabling many countries to have access to cultural,

scientific and technological information which was necessary for their social and economic development. Several members of the Commission referred to the importance attached by the scientific and cultural circles in their respective countries to the periodicals and publications in Russian produced by Unesco, and to the need to maintain a high standard of quality in this respect.

(211) The delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany declared that he doubted whether Unesco was going in the right direction when approving the wider use of any of the official languages and he wondered if it would not be better to consolidate the existing situation in the use of the Russian language. He feared that any extension in the use of languages in Unesco would lead to budgetary increases and would be an invitation for others to follow. Furthermore, he thought that to accentuate the importance of certain hegemonial languages would run counter to the policy of cultural identity which Unesco had made as one of its main objectives since the World Conference on Cultural Policies (MONDIACULT) held in Mexico in 1982.

(212) Referring to the draft resolution suggested by the Director-General in paragraph 21 of document 23 C/38, some speakers stated that, in substance, they did not see any major differences of opinion between this text and that of the draft resolution submitted by the USSR. One delegate suggested that it should be possible to combine both draft resolutions in order to arrive at a consensus and proposed to amend them accordingly. Other members endorsed this suggestion and, in turn, offered several amendments.

(213) In the light of the debate, the delegate of the USSR made a formal proposal for the merger of both draft resolutions which, after some discussion, met with general agreement.

(214) On the Chairman's proposal, the Commission then recommended by consensus that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 8.4 (23 C/Resolution 51).

(215) The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany stated that he had not pressed for a vote on the text of the draft resolution in order not to prevent the consensus, but would ask that the reservations he had expressed during the debate be duly reflected in the Commission's report.

ITEM 8.6 - AMENDMENT TO RULE 54.1 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE WITH A VIEW TO THE INTRODUCTION OF PORTUGUESE AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(216) Introducing document 23 C/39, the Assistant Director-General for General Activities and Programme Support reminded the Commission of the reasons

why the item appeared on the agenda. At the twenty-second session of the General Conference, the General Committee had decided to instruct the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board a study on the desirability and financial implications of the introduction of Portuguese and other languages as working languages of the Organization. This study (document 120 EX/29 and Corr.) had been prepared for the 120th session of the Executive Board which had in fact examined it at its 121st session, together with a supplementary document on the same subject (121 EX/34). On the proposal of the Brazilian member of the Executive Board, speaking on behalf of the seven Member States where Portuguese is an official language, the Board had decided to suspend further consideration of the matter. However, the Executive Board had approved another proposal from the same group of Member States to include Portuguese among the official languages of the General Conference. In the document before the Commission, the Director-General was transmitting to the General Conference the recommendation of the Executive Board (121 EX/Decision 8.6) to this effect, which would require an amendment to Rule 54.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference.

(217) During the ensuing debate, the delegates of four Portuguese-speaking Member States referred to Recommendation No.73 adopted unanimously at the World Conference on Cultural Policies, MONDIACULT (Mexico City, July-August 1982) requesting the Director-General to study the possibility of introducing Portuguese as a working language of the General Conference. The studies made by the Director-General showed that this decision would entail considerable additional expenditure at a time when Unesco was facing a difficult financial situation. For this reason they had decided not to press the issue and believed that, in the present circumstances, the recommendation by the Executive Board, which had mostly a symbolic value, offered the best course of action.

(218) The same delegates, joined by other members of the Commission, emphasized the importance of the Portuguese language, which was spoken by over two hundred million people in five continents, was an official language in seven Member States of Unesco and served as an effective instrument of communication between Member States and between them and other countries of the world.

(219) Several other delegates also spoke in favour of endorsing the recommendation of the Executive Board to add Portuguese to the list of official languages of the General Conference, both in recognition of the importance of that language and in view of the almost negligible financial implications. One delegate stressed that the sense of responsibility shown by the Portuguese-speaking countries when the matter was

examined by the Executive Board had resulted in the recommendation before the Commission; he joined the general consensus for approval of the draft resolution in paragraph 7 of document 23 C/39.

(220) On the Chairman's proposal the Commission then recommended by acclamation that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 8.6 (23 C/Resolution 31.2).

PART IV

ITEM 9 - FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

ITEM 9.1 - FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF UNESCO FOR THE FINANCIAL PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1983, TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

(221) On behalf of the Director-General, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) welcomed the representative of the External Auditor who was present for the discussions in the Commission on the Unesco and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) audit reports, and expressed appreciation of the high professional quality of the work carried out by the External Auditor and his staff during the examination of the accounts.

(222) In explaining the contents of document 23 C/41, the Assistant Director-General stated that the document consisted of three main parts, the financial report of the Director-General, the report of the External Auditor and the Audited financial period ended 31 December 1983. The order of presentation of the document followed the recommendations of the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ), an inter-agency body which endeavoured to achieve harmonization of financial statements throughout the United Nations system. All the financial statements were presented in vertical form in order to facilitate reading and comprehension.

(223) The Assistant Director-General then provided a brief description of the contents of the Director-General's financial report and the main topics covered therein. He drew attention to the percentage of payments received from Member States against contributions assessed for the year 1983 which was 84.24 per cent, as compared to 91.92 per cent for 1983. The combined receipt of contributions for the financial period 1981-1983 as at 31 December 1983 represented 93.91 per cent of the total amount assessed for that period. The financial position of the regular budget had remained favourable through 1983, although the monthly cash flow had varied considerably due to the irregular pattern in the receipt of contributions. The favourable cash position was due primarily to the strength of the US dollar vis-à-vis the French franc, which had produced savings

under Part VIII of the budget amounting to \$79.6 million during the financial period. When these savings were added to the original Appropriation \$70.8 million that was not utilized, the total credit balance for Part VIII was \$150.4 million as at 31 December 1983. The Director-General was most grateful to all Member States which had paid their contributions in full and in a timely fashion, and appealed to all other Member States in arrears to do their utmost to pay their contributions promptly.

(224) The Assistant Director-General went on to explain the policy followed by Unesco when investing cash assets. He noted that the interest rate received on investments had remained at a high level throughout 1983, with the result that the interest income for the financial period, net of exchange adjustments, amounted to \$28.9 million. This high level of interest income was due to the very careful management of cash assets by the Comptroller and the staff in the Treasury Section. The interest earned together with other miscellaneous income, in excess of that foreseen for the 1981-1983 budget, would be available to reduce the assessments against Member States in the future, in accordance with the Financial Regulations.

(225) With regard to extra-budgetary activities other than those financed by UNDP, the Assistant Director-General assured the Commission that the Director-General had issued instructions that deficits in all self-financing funds must be eliminated. Steps were being taken to ensure that this result would be achieved as soon as possible. Overall operational trust funds and special accounts managed by Unesco as at 31 December 1983 amounted to \$90.4 million, which allowed the Organization to continue operational programme activities supporting Member States and should help finance such activities in the immediate future.

(226) With respect to the report of the External Auditor, the Commission was informed that the representative of the External Auditor would cover that report in his introductory remarks. However, as was customary, the Director-General had provided his written observations on the External Auditor's report to the Executive Board and these observations were also available for the General

Conference in Appendix III to document 23 C/41. The comments of the External Auditor on all topics had been duly noted and appropriate follow-up action had been or would be taken on the various matters identified by the Auditor. Nevertheless, the specific measures being taken by the Director-General in those areas where the External Auditor had expressed concerns were covered in detail in the Commission by the Assistant Director-General for General Administration.

Budgetary control in relation to year-end accounting

(227) In paragraphs 5 to 16 of the External Auditor's report, certain problems had been highlighted regarding the budgetary controls linked to year-end accounting procedures. Steps have been taken to reinforce these procedures so as to ensure that similar problems in budget control would not arise in the future. Computer techniques were now being utilized for the direct input of allotments and obligations into the budget accounts system. In this way the budget accounts would reflect up-to-date information on day-to-day financial transactions by direct inputs from computer terminals operated by Budget and Certifying Officers. Thus the adjustments required in the accounts at the close of a financial period could be made much easier and with improved coordination and efficiency than previously. Other control procedures had also been reinforced by the Bureau of the Comptroller. This Bureau now examined the supporting documents to ascertain the validity of each obligation between three to seven days after the obligation was entered into the accounts. If the Bureau of the Comptroller was not satisfied that all obligations complied with the Financial Regulations and the accounting procedures contained in the Unesco Manual, the immediate cancellation of the obligation was requested. Prior to 1984, the Bureau of the Comptroller had delegated these initial budget controls to Certifying Officers in the Programme Sectors but unfortunately the experience gained and the problems encountered necessitated changing the procedures.

(228) In this way, the Bureau of the Comptroller would be able to exercise additional vigilance during the last quarter of the biennium so as to ensure that all obligations entered into the accounts conformed fully to Manual requirements regarding criteria for the validity of obligations at the end of the biennium. The criteria followed in validating obligations at the end of a financial period had been improved in two areas. The first improvement concerned supplies and equipment used at Headquarters. An administrative circular had been issued specifying that Unesco must receive the supplier's acceptance

of the official purchase order before the end of the financial period, indicating that the goods concerned would be dispatched no later than one month after the end of the financial period. The second change made by the administrative circular was that contracts for external printing and binding would be considered valid only when the completed manuscript had been delivered to the contractor for copy preparation, type setting, copy art work and printing as appropriate, before the end of the financial period and when the work was completed within ten months following the end of the financial period.

(229) It was felt that these improved procedures for reinforcing budget control would comply fully with the recommendations of the External Auditor.

Tendering procedures

(230) The External Auditor in his report had also covered the question of Unesco contracting policies and procedures as well as the Contracts Committee's work in reviewing bids received. The External Auditor's concern was that whenever significant adjustments were required in bids received, a re-bidding procedure should be followed so that all original bidders would have a chance to compete again on the basis of the adjusted specifications. If there were cases where such re-bidding was not practicable, then Unesco should insist on confirmation of the new offers from the selected bidder. New measures have been taken to strengthen the operation of the Contracts Committee and the bidding procedure. The system of sealed bids was being strictly enforced and the sealed bids were kept in the custody of the Comptroller until they were officially opened in the presence of the members of the Contracts Committee. More and more often, completely new calls for bids were being made whenever significant adjustments of the original bids were considered to be necessary.

(231) The Director-General had also changed the composition of the Contracts Committee so as to include the Comptroller as the Chairman, and the Director of the Bureau of Budget and the Legal Adviser as regular members of the Committee. The Inspector General attended Contracts Committee meetings as an observer, and the Sector of Bureau proposing the contract prepared the files and information for the Committee but did not take part in the final decision on the contract. In addition, the Director-General had combined the Contracts Committee and the Headquarters Contracts Committee into one single Committee which would ensure that the same strict procedures were followed in all cases.

(232) The functions of the Contracts Committee were very important. The Committee reviewed the bids received, compared the bid details, made recommendations on and examined the

terms of the proposed contract so as to ensure that the Organization's interests were fully protected. The Contracts Committee had authority to approve contracts of up to \$150,000. For contracts above this amount the recommendations of the Contracts Committee were submitted to the ADG/ADM for approval. These new procedures, combined with the strict application of the existing rules, would ensure that in all cases the selection of contractors and the terms of contracts would receive the attention they deserved.

Presentation of staff costs in the programme and budget

(233) The External Auditor had observed that the Approved Programme and Budget for 1984-1985 did not conform with the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit regarding the provision of staff costs in work months or work years at the subprogramme level. While it was true that document 22 C/5 presented staff costs only at the programme level, it could be noted that in document 23 C/5 draft the staff costs had been provided at the subprogramme level and by work years at standard costs.

Misappropriation of imprest funds

(234) With regard to the case covered in paragraph 44 of the External Auditor's report, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration reported that the Organization had recovered the entire cash loss amounting to \$9,743 that had been misappropriated by a staff member in a Regional Office. The recovery had been made through a claim made under a fidelity insurance policy covering the Organization against fraud on the part of its staff members.

Publications Fund

(235) Although the accounts of this Fund showed a small excess of expenditure over income for the eighteen-month period January 1984 to June 1985, it should be noted that in the first six months of 1985, due primarily to a reorganization of the services concerned and economies made on staff costs, an excess of income over expenditure of some \$154,000 had been recorded. As at 30 June 1985, the overall surplus of the Fund was about \$97,000 and it was hoped that deficits would be avoided in the future.

Public Relations Activities Fund

(236) Unfortunately, the expenditure on this fund had exceeded income over the financial period 1984-1985 to date. Nevertheless, the accounts as at 31 August 1985 still showed an overall surplus of about \$14,000. As foreseen in the comments by the Director-General on

the Report of the External Auditor which had been provided to the Executive Board, the possibility of merging the Special Account for Public Relations Activities with the Public Information and Liaison Fund is being explored. In paragraph 15475 of document 23 C/5 Draft, it is stated that the Director-General intended to propose such a merger during the forthcoming financial period. The exact modalities regarding the management of the new fund and the responsibility for the self-supporting financing of the various activities to be grouped therein could, however, be clarified after a final decision has been taken on reorganization and restructuring, and after document 23 C/5 Draft is approved. A merger should in no way prevent an overall excess of income over expenditure in the merged fund for the future.

Unesco Restaurant Services

(237) The Unesco Restaurant Services continued to incur losses despite the special efforts made to eliminate such losses. The Director-General was negotiating the contracting out of the restaurant services in order to ensure that further losses would not be incurred. Eventually a merger of the Restaurant Services with the Utilization of Headquarters Fund might be a viable proposal.

Trust Funds

(238) The External Auditor had made observations regarding the National Museum project which had been visited in a North African country. This project was now coming to a successful conclusion. The budget estimate for the project of \$37.9 million had proved to be realistic and had not been revised since the External Auditor's report. The latest expenditure report on the project, including unliquidated obligations, was \$38.2 million.

(239) Attention was drawn to the Executive Board's decision taken after examining the External Auditor's report and the audited financial statement at its 120th session, which was contained in paragraph 1 of document 23 C/41. Paragraph 4 of the Board's decision requested the Director-General to study the procedures for surrendering budget surpluses resulting from currency fluctuation under Part VIII of the budget. This subject had been discussed in the Board's Finance and Administrative Commission at its 120th session and had led to the study being submitted to the 121st session of the Executive Board. The Director General's study, contained in document 121 EX/33, identified five options for apportioning and surrendering budget surpluses arising from currency fluctuation in the future. After considering this question, the Executive Board had recommended that the General Conference adopt an appropriation

resolution which would require that any savings under Part VIII of the budget, up to 75 per cent of the provisional total of such surplus at the end of the biennium, should be apportioned among Member States immediately after the close of the financial period in accordance with the Financial Regulations. Further adjustments would be made after the end of the first year of the following biennium. Document 23 C/ADM/INF.2 containing the draft appropriation resolution included a paragraph (c) (ii) where provisions to this effect as recommended by the Executive Board had been included.

(240) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration then informed the Committee that a contribution of \$10,000 received from the Government of Japan had been credited to the Trust Fund for the establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo instead of to the Trust Fund for Unesco/Japan Joint Programme of Translation and Publication of Representative Literary Works of Japan. This entry had been made due to erroneous information contained in a credit advice received from the Bank, but the necessary adjustment had been made in the 1984 accounts on the basis of a letter received from the Japanese Government.

Statement of the External Auditor

(241) The representative of the External Auditor explained briefly how the External Audit staff carried out their audit in order to satisfy the responsibilities placed upon them by Article 12 of Unesco's Financial Regulations.

(242) The audit comprised both a financial and efficiency audit. The financial audit was concerned with assessing the adequacy of the Organization's financial systems and control procedures and conducting a test examination of the accounting transactions to see that systems were working satisfactorily, that controls were effective and that all important regulations, rules and instructions were being observed. This examination therefore was directed at the accounting and financial control which enabled the External Auditor to certify the accuracy and propriety of the accounts.

(243) The efficiency audit, or value-for-money-audit as it was also known, was directed at examining whether programmes, projects and activities had been efficiently and economically carried out and whether the Organization ensured that worthwhile benefits accrued from the expenditure. He considered this to be an important part of the audit staff's work which they had been encouraged to develop.

(244) Concurrent with and pursuant to his examination, the External Auditor made observations and sought explanations from the Secretariat. Although

the comments might be critical, they were always intended to be constructive. The External Auditor's report did not reflect all the matters raised during the year; it was confined to those matters which the External Auditor considered should be brought to the attention of Member States to explain, for example, a significant point in the accounts or to exemplify the need for improvement in procedures. On these matters, the External Auditor sometimes made definite recommendations or, where solutions to problems were not obvious, he might suggest the need for further consideration by the Secretariat. The audit staff enjoyed a good working relationship with the Secretariat and there was a continuing interchange of observations and comments.

(245) The audit examination was not confined to Headquarters. During 1983 the auditors had visited countries in Asia, South America and North Africa to examine a wide range of the organization's activities and the results had been included in the report before the Commission.

(246) The External Auditor's representative explained that they had continued a close working relationship with the Internal Audit Division of the Inspectorate General and took into account the work of internal audit when framing their own audit plans to avoid, so far as was consistent with their differing responsibilities, wasteful duplication.

(247) In introducing the External Auditor's report, set out on pages 24-43 of document 23 C/41, the representative of the External Auditor commented first on paragraphs 5-16 of the report, which recorded the results of the examination of the account at the end of the budget period. The examination highlighted two main areas of concern. First, certain obligations had been raised which failed to satisfy the strict criteria laid down by Unesco for establishing obligations. Second, it had been found that funds for certain essential services had been exhausted mid-way through the triennium and payments were charged to a suspense account until savings were identified towards the end of the year and transfers authorized.

(248) He attributed both problems to a common cause: Unesco lacked an effective system for obtaining reliable out-turn forecasts from spending sectors. There was thus an uncertainty at the end of the financial period as to the availability of funds.

(249) The External Auditor's representative said that he welcomed the recent changes and improvements in the criteria for raising obligations and the intention to ensure that more precise budgetary forecasts would be available in the last quarter of the financial period. He trusted that the new measures would prevent a recurrence of the problems experienced in 1983 and would pay special attention to their operation.

(250) The next two subjects in the report - paragraphs 17-27 - dealing respectively with staff savings arising from the reduced level of UNDP activity and the remodelling of the Executive Board room had a common theme. In both cases the Secretariat had sought approval for budget changes either late in the day or after the event, instead of presenting the Executive Board with the genuine choice of options to permit its members to exercise fully the responsibilities placed on them by the General Conference for the management of the Organization's affairs.

(251) The Secretariat had accepted that the procedures adopted in 1977-1978 when a similar situation arose could have been followed. Also the External Auditor thought that the Organization could have foreseen from 1980 onwards that additional accommodation would be necessary when the size of the Board was increased. However, the authority to put the work in hand was not sought until late in 1983. The Board was then asked to approve the work on the basis of an estimate that they felt was unrealistic and the contract procedures had to be rushed. Discussions were entered into with contractors which largely negated the assurance of fairness and integrity provided by the sealed tender procedure. He welcomed the recent improvements to the Organization's contract procedures and hoped that the improvements to the budgetary out-turn forecasting system mentioned earlier would avoid the need to act in haste at the end of the year.

(252) During 1983 the External Auditor had examined Unesco's procedures for determining staff requirements and found that Unesco considered carefully the need to create new posts or to fill vacant posts against expected workloads and made similar judgements when preparing budget proposals. However, he felt that the system lacked one essential feature - there was no systematic arrangement for testing whether workloads had coincided with expectations. He suggested that this task could be performed by a small Staff Inspection Unit which could also examine whether posts were properly graded, whether the organizational structure was appropriate to the work and whether essential work was being left undone. He noted that the Director-General did not plan to establish such a unit because he was satisfied with present procedures, supplemented by a special review that was presently taking place which would examine the workload of each staff member. The External Auditor's representative, however, maintained that a Staff Inspection Unit would more than recoup its operating costs.

(253) The External Auditor had also reviewed the arrangements for carrying out maintenance work. He noted that Unesco intended to establish procedures to enable the real cost of jobs to be determined and to establish criteria

against which decisions to repair or replace facilities could be taken. He also noted that it was intended to carry out a wider study to establish whether economies could be achieved by contracting out some of the maintenance work. These measures should result in better management and maintenance of Unesco's Headquarters premises.

(254) In paragraphs 48 to 58, the External Auditor reported the results of his examination of two of Unesco's self-financing funds, the Publications Fund and the Public Information and Liaison Fund. During the triennium the Publications Fund incurred deficits which had virtually exhausted the accumulated surplus of \$1.9 million at 31 December 1980. A working group established by the Director-General had recommended measures to improve the situation in 1982 and identified areas requiring further study. While certain organizational reforms had been carried out, it appeared that the Organization had not yet solved the basic problem of making the Fund more manageable and presenting the results of its operation in a measurable form which indicated its efficiency and effectiveness. The External Auditor recommended that further thought should be given to this matter.

(255) He went on to say that in general the self-financing funds, which were included in Statement VII of Unesco's 1983 accounts, caused problems for the External Auditor each year as evidenced by the regularity with which they had featured in recent audit reports. Many of the activities were funded jointly by the regular programme and one of the funds, and decisions on charging expenditures to the regular programme or to a fund seemed to be dictated more by what a particular fund could bear than by the purpose the fund was intended to serve. The External Auditor had suggested that the Board should consider setting up a Subcommittee to review all the self-financing funds to determine whether they still played a realistic role as instruments of control or information.

(256) Paragraphs 60-83 of the report recorded the results of audit visits to four self-benefiting trust fund projects. There were some lessons to be learned if any similar projects were commissioned in future and these were set out in paragraph 81 of the report. A common feature was delay in implementation which was attributed to a lack of detailed pre-planning procedures such as was normally found in UNDP projects. The External Auditor welcomed the Organization's intention to increase the pre-planning of projects and subject them to an initial study to identify problem areas.

(257) Paragraphs 84-90 concerned the examination of expenditure incurred under the Special Account for Increased Aid to Developing Countries. The External Auditor had noted that recipients of

financial assistance had been slow to respond to requests to submit statements showing how financial contributions had been used. He considered that meaningful statements were essential to proper accountability. He welcomed the Organization's decision to introduce a similar procedure to that adopted for the participation programme under which the Director-General would suspend further assistance to those Member States with statements outstanding for financial contributions granted before the mid-point of the previous financial period.

(258) The External Auditor also suggested that it would be useful for the Organization to carry out a limited evaluation of projects funded from this account to determine whether they best met the needs of those countries which the account was intended to serve. He was pleased to note that the Director-General had agreed to carry out such an evaluation.

(259) During the discussion, a number of delegates expressed appreciation for the introduction to the document by the Assistant Director-General for General Administration and the representative of the External Auditor. Appreciation was also expressed for the information provided on follow-up action being taken by the Secretariat with respect to the recommendations made by the External Auditor in his report on the 1983 accounts.

Overall content of External Auditor's report

(260) Several delegates commended the External Auditor on the great clarity and high quality of his report, and expressed satisfaction with the value-for-money audit approach which showed that in-depth reviews, and not merely bookkeeping checks had been carried out.

(261) Several delegates considered that the External Auditor's report should be seen in the light of the numerous unfair criticisms alleging financial mismanagement that had been levelled against the Organization by certain outside sources. These delegates considered that there was nothing in the audit report to support any such accusations of allegations. One of these delegates was of the opinion that in an organization the size of Unesco, an audit exercise should inevitably produce observations on some points and suggested improvements. The recommendations of the External Auditor as reflected in his audit report should be followed up with special attention.

Control of obligation

(262) One delegate referred to the comment in the External Auditor's report regarding the inadvisability of using suspense accounts for recording expenditures that should be charged to the budget. This delegate noted that funds had

been exhausted mid-way through the financial year 1983 under specific expenditures heading, and a problem had arisen because of the need to absorb inflation under that heading with only a semi-full budgetary provision in the third year of an exceptionally long three-year financial period. He felt that when specific problems arose, ad hoc solutions had to be found and although the Secretariat might not be able to identify specific areas for transfers of allotments, legitimate expenditure could be incurred where it was expected that overall savings would be available.

(263) Another delegate felt that the use of computer terminals by certifying officers to enter obligations in a timely manner into the budget accounts was a distinct improvement.

Methods of determining staff complements

(264) Several delegates requested additional information on the recommendation of the External Auditor that the Director-General should consider the establishment of a small Staff Inspection Unit. One delegate asked whether in the context of the restructuring and redeployment of the Secretariat, taking account of the recommendations of the Working Group established by the Director-General, why such a unit was not considered necessary. This delegate felt that the improved evaluation of staff requirements for units in the Secretariat should be extended. Another delegate felt that the establishment of a new unit to carry out staff inspection might be inadvisable in so far as it would take up valuable time of the Secretariat that was to be reduced in size in 1986-1987. Nevertheless he asked whether the establishment of such a unit might not be advisable in order to absorb some of the talented people that might have to be redeployed or terminated.

(265) Another delegate supported the introduction of work measurement techniques in order to ensure that all of the posts requested in Unesco budget were justified. He asked whether all services in the Secretariat had been recently reviewed to ensure that the posts authorized were exactly what was required for the programmes approved by the General Conference.

(266) Another delegate said he understood that the External Auditor's proposal entailed the creation of a small inspection unit, perhaps assisted with outside expertise from time to time. He understood that the Director-General's position on this proposal had been fully explained in paragraph 66 of the report of the Executive Board's Finance and Administrative Commission which appeared as Appendix II to document 23 C/41. He asked whether the matter had been discussed further with the External Auditor as foreseen.

(267) Attention was drawn by one delegate to the consequences of reducing the size of the Secretariat. He was concerned that the reduction could lead to a loss of necessary expertise and continuity and could lead to a continuation of some of the problems covered in the External Auditor's report.

Misappropriation of imprest funds

(268) One delegate considered that particular attention should be paid to problems such as that related to the misappropriation of funds in a trust fund project in East Africa. Another delegate urged that adequate safeguards and control be maintained in the operation of Regional Offices.

Self-financing funds

(269) One delegate welcomed the efforts being made by the Director-General to contract the restaurant services to an outside firm.

(270) Another delegate, referring to the deficit that had occurred in the Publications Fund, noted that a working group established by the Director-General had recommended that publications be decentralized to the Regional Offices and asked whether any publications had been so decentralized.

Special Account for increased aid to developing countries

(271) Two delegates observed that the External Auditor's report indicated that problems had been encountered in obtaining financial reports from some Member States on financial assistance from Unesco under this account. They requested additional information on the results achieved from the denial of additional financial assistance to those Member States which had not submitted the required financial reports on previous financial assistance from the Special Account. One of these delegates said that he had noted that proper financial control was being exercised over funds allocated under the Participation Programme and noted also that similar measures were being applied to the Special Account. He went on to ask whether the evaluation exercise had been carried out on the projects implemented under the Special Account and asked whether any relevant information was contained in document 23 C/5.

(272) Another delegate said that the Special Account for Increased Aid to Developing Countries was indispensable as a financial complement to the Participation Programme for financing projects that could not be accommodated under the regular programme. This delegate felt that it would be useful for an evaluation to be carried out in order to find ways of improving the efficiency of the operation of the Special Account.

Cash flow and investments

(273) In view of the information contained in document 23 C/41 regarding the irregular pattern in the payment of contributions by certain Member States, one delegate felt that it would be appropriate to request Member States to pay their contributions to the regular programme budget in a timely manner. This delegate congratulated the Director-General on the substantial amount of interest earned from investments during the financial period 1981-1983.

Project implementation

(274) Several delegates urged that delays in project implementation should be eliminated. One of these delegates requested that particular attention be given to timely implementation of extra-budgetary projects under UNDP and trust fund financing, and considered there was need for improvement in project planning procedures covering all projects.

(275) One delegate drew attention to the statement in the External Auditor's report that he had received, at all times and during all the stages of his audit, the fullest and most willing co-operation from the Unesco staff.

(276) In reply to the comments made and questions raised during the debate on agenda item 9.1, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration thanked the delegates who had provided views and guidance that could assist the Secretariat in the days ahead. He assured the delegates that all observations made during the debate would be carefully examined and that appropriate action would be taken. He paid a special compliment to the staff in the Bureau of the Comptroller and the Treasury Division for the excellent work performed in continuing to make timely investments of surplus funds which earned substantial interest income for the Organization.

(277) With regard to methods used to determine staff requirements, the Assistant Director-General said that following receipt of a report from the Joint Inspection Unit on this subject, considerable discussion and reflection had taken place, not only in Unesco but within the entire United Nations system. Whereas some types of activity such as repetitive, routine and clerical tasks, were easily adaptable to work measurement techniques, there were other types where it was extremely difficult to quantify in advance the output or result expected. In such cases, it could be extremely difficult to use work measurement techniques. In discussions with the External Auditor regarding the methods used by Unesco to determine staff needs, the Director-General had said that, in principle, he was in favour of using

appropriate work measurement techniques as an aid to determine staffing requirements. When it was proposed to create new posts, a review was carried out by the Bureau of the Budget and by the Bureau of Personnel. In addition, proposals for the creation of new posts were often reviewed by the Director-General himself.

(278) A detailed review of all posts and the workload associated therewith had been carried out during 1983, in connection with the preparation of document 23 C/5. Considerable time and effort having been devoted to such a detailed review and examination of the workload associated with each post, it was felt that there was a limit to the ability of the Secretariat to assume further studies on the same or closely related issues. Since it was likely that a reduction of as many as 500 posts would be approved by the General Conference, it was felt that it would be difficult indeed to envisage the creation of a Staff Inspection Unit at this time unless the General Conference authorized additional posts for this purpose and the resources to finance them. In the areas where staff reductions would be made, it was evident that some of the work would have to be reallocated to the remaining staff. Therefore, it would be necessary for the workload to be subjected to frequent reviews. He stated that the planned review of the results of the examination of the 1983 workload with the External Auditor had not yet taken place, but that it could take place in the coming months.

(279) On the questions on the Special Account for Increased Aid to Developing Countries, the Assistant Director-General stated that the Director-General had given specific instructions not to grant additional funds to those Member States that had not yet submitted financial reports on the financial assistance they had received. The Director-General, mindful of the assistance given to developing countries through the Special Account, was mobilizing the assistance of UNDP Resident Representatives and Unesco Regional Offices to obtain the necessary reports. Delays could occur in the receipt of the report for many reasons, including postal delays and internal routing problems within the governments themselves as well as within the Unesco Secretariat. Nevertheless the proper control procedures were now rigidly enforced.

(280) On decentralization of the publications financed from the Publications Fund the Assistant Director-General said that the determination of what publications could be decentralized was in process. Efforts were being made to develop within Regional Offices the capacity to implement a decentralized publications policy. With respect to the implementation of extra-budgetary projects in general, the Commission was

informed that it was important when considering present delays in delivery to identify exactly what the problems were and where they had occurred. Problems arising within the Secretariat could be controlled and corrected, but problems linked to the inability to provide counterpart inputs by the country itself were outside the Secretariat's competence to resolve.

(281) Visits to Regional Offices by staff who could assist with the training of personnel were considered important, but it was crucial to such visits that adequate resources be available to provide for the travel costs. Unfortunately, it had been essential in the present circumstances to reduce the budget provisions for travel costs by a substantial amount.

(282) The Unesco Comptroller informed the Commission that the reports required on financial assistance provided under the Special Account for Increased Aid to Developing Countries were being followed up very closely. Recently a complete list of all countries where reports were due had been sent to the Sectors responsible for authorizing the assistance, following the same procedures as those used under the participation programme in order to ensure that additional assistance would not be granted. As a result of this follow-up action by the Secretariat, some of the outstanding reports were being received. The Comptroller added that the new computerized system covering the direct entry of obligations from computer terminals into the budget accounts should allow the Administrative Officers in the Sectors to provide the information needed for greater co-ordination and control purposes. Efforts were continuing in all areas to eliminate inadequate procedures. The Commission was informed that an experiment was currently under way in one of the Unesco Regional Offices which could provide access to the central computer at Headquarters. It was envisaged that this experiment could eventually be extended to other Regional Offices.

(283) The Commission unanimously agreed to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on item 9.1 (23 C/Resolution 33.1).

ITEM 9.2 - FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS RELATING TO THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1983 TOGETHER WITH THE REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

(284) The Chairman drew attention to document 23 C/42, indicating that it contained the Audited Financial Statements together and the Financial Report of the Director-General relating to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as at 31 December 1983, together with the Report of the External Auditor. A draft resolution would be found in paragraph 4 of the document.

(285) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) in his introductory remarks pointed out that the Executive Board had approved the audited UNDP financial statements and the Report of the External Auditor as authorized by 22 C/Resolution 28.6 and that the General Conference was now invited to receive that report and the financial statements. He then covered briefly the major points contained in the Director-General's financial report. He stated that 1983 project expenditure was \$41.8 million which, when compared with 1982, represented a decrease of approximately 6 per cent. The decrease was due mainly to a further contraction in the resources available to UNDP. This contraction had resulted in reduced allocations to Unesco and to other Executing Agencies. The percentage distributions of project expenditure by type of assistance, as shown in graphic form on page 2 of the document, indicated that the proportion of expenditure by individual component had remained largely unchanged during the past several years. He added that an important feature of the UNDP system was that the project components depended on the choices made by individual governments and as such largely reflected the priorities determined by each country regarding the type of project inputs it desired.

(286) For programme support costs, it was recalled that a reduced rate of 13 per cent of project expenditure had been authorized with effect from 1982 as approved by the UNDP Governing Council, but a safety-net clause existed providing a transitional period from 1982 to 1986 which had been designed to protect Executing Agencies from a sharp drop in their support cost reimbursements. Consequently, Unesco had been reimbursed in 1983 for programme support costs at the rate of 14 per cent of project expenditure.

(287) The Assistant Director-General then covered several points contained in the report of the External Auditor resulting from an examination of operational projects in a country in the Asia and Pacific Region. The Director-General was most appreciative of the efforts made by the Government concerned to provide project inputs on time and in some cases exceeding its formal obligations in this respect. Commenting on difficulties encountered by the Organization in obtaining export licences for certain high technology equipment items, the ADG/ADM stated that this was obviously a difficult and sensitive issue and that it was not easy for Unesco to press governments to issue such export licences more promptly or to simplify the intergovernmental machinery dealing with their issuance. On the subject of delays in the implementation of fellowships because of the lack of candidates with the required linguistic ability, as mentioned in the report of the External

Auditor he said that the Organization did everything possible to assist in overcoming this problem. The Director-General had recently appointed a Unesco representative to the country visited by the External Auditor's staff; the Organization was confident that communication weaknesses would be overcome with the help of on-the-spot intervention by that representative, together with the co-operation of the government concerned.

(288) The External Auditor, in reporting on his mission to a country in the Asia and Pacific Region, had noted that out of the 11 projects inspected, nine appeared to be proceeding satisfactorily, but there were problems in two projects. One project, entitled 'Modernization of Educational Methods', had been drawn up with objectives that were recognized in retrospect as being over-ambitious since the project budget was only about \$1 million. The Unesco Education Sector had subsequently revised the project objectives to reduce them considerably, and the Sector now considered that satisfactory results were being obtained, commensurate with the budget level available. The second project concerning which some doubts had been expressed by the Auditor was in the Science Sector where difficulties had been encountered because of restrictions on the issuance of export licences for equipment to be imported into the country. The project budget allocation was \$300,000 whereas at the end of September 1985 project expenditure of \$260,000 had been incurred. The project objectives had been mostly achieved despite some delays in the process. A consultant was at present in the country to complete the specifications for the order and delivery of the final equipment items required for the project. In replying to the question asked by one delegate the ADG/ADM indicated that the country concerned was China.

(289) Two delegates referred to comments in the External Auditor's report relating to the problem of timely project implementation, and suggested that attention should be given to this factor by ensuring that realistic project schedules were prepared covering the period from the commencement of projects to the anticipated completion date. By giving attention to improved project schedules, the reputation of the Organization could be improved. The Secretariat was urged to devote special attention to the comments in the External Auditor's report on this subject.

(290) In reply it was stated by the Assistant Director-General for General Administration that the Secretariat was also collaborating with UNDP on questions related to the timely implementation of operational projects including the design, implementation and completion of operational projects. Efforts to simplify project documents and reporting procedures were underway. Emphasis was being placed on essential

issues linked with project implementation and avoiding time spent on peripheral or unimportant issues.

(291) A question was asked regarding the extent to which the 14 per cent of project costs paid by UNDP for programme support cost covered the actual costs incurred by Unesco in the execution of UNDP projects. Did Unesco still have to bear additional costs over and above the reimbursement received from UNDP and had any changes occurred in this respect?

(292) In reply, it was confirmed that programme support costs reimbursed by UNDP covered only a part of the overall programme support costs involved in implementing UNDP projects. The United Nations Organization had been requested to develop and install a cost measurement system several years ago since it did not have a cost accounting system which would provide details on the programme support costs required to execute UNDP projects. This inter-agency study indicated that programme support costs varied between 19 per cent and 28 per cent in the various United Nations organizations; Unesco's programme support cost was about in the middle of this range.

(293) Two delegates expressed concern over the level of Unesco programme expenditure incurred in their respective regions, which they felt was too low. One of these delegates noted that less than \$100,000 had been spent by Unesco under the UNDP programme during the year 1983 in the South Pacific region. The hope was expressed that the establishment of a subregional office in Western Samoa would help Unesco to identify projects that would qualify for UNDP financial assistance in the future. The other delegate felt that UNDP resources for the Arab region available to Unesco should be increased.

(294) Replying to the comments made in the debate, the Assistant Director-General explained that individual countries themselves determined the amount of resources to be allocated from their Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) as established by the UNDP Governing Council. Some countries chose to assign IPF resources for health projects, others chose projects in agriculture in preference perhaps to a project in education, culture, science or communications. When a modest amount was shown as the Unesco project expenditure in a particular country, it did not necessarily reflect Unesco's preference or the overall UNDP activity in that country. The establishment of a subregional office in Western Samoa should help governments in the region to identify projects within Unesco's competence thus enabling Unesco to provide increased assistance to the countries concerned.

(295) Another delegate, noting the External Auditor's comments concerning fellowships, felt that the Unesco Fellowship Division could improve selec-

tion procedures. He also felt that more attention should be given to the evaluation of reports received from fellows placed by the Organization; and requested that an effort be made to use to the maximum extent possible the training institutes and facilities established with Unesco/UNDP assistance in the various regions, rather than continuing to rely on the traditional training facilities which the Secretariat had used in the past.

(296) Commenting on the points raised regarding fellowships, the ADG/ADM stated that the Secretariat attempted to place fellows in countries where the necessary training facilities existed, without any discrimination in favour or against any Member State. Special efforts were made to place fellows in institutions established and financed with UNDP assistance. The identification of fellows to be sent for training was primarily the responsibility of the government concerned; however the Secretariat assisted in the process and tried to ensure that the fellows had the necessary linguistic abilities in order to take advantage of the specific training undertaken.

(297) One member of the Commission referred to the graphic illustration on page 2 of the Director-General's report which showed the percentage of project expenditure by type of assistance during 1983. He felt that the best interest of developing countries could be served by their increasing concentration and expenditure for training and for the equipment components while reducing the use of project personnel. The ADG/ADM recalled that the data used in the graph reflected the decisions taken by the countries concerned which received assistance financed by UNDP. It was the role of Unesco, within its area of competence, to provide the type of assistance requested by individual countries.

(298) In answer to a question concerning the average cost of experts as shown in paragraph 6 of the Director-General's report, the ADG/ADM explained that the figure of \$6,933 represented the average actual cost of one month per expert for services during 1983. Such costs covered not only the salary and allowances received by the expert but also covered items such as travel and other supporting services.

(299) One delegate, referring to the section of the External Auditor's report on 'project progress reports', noted the comment that the system was not working satisfactorily. Although he was aware that the UNDP system included the monitoring of project progress reports as a normal element in project execution, he asked to be informed of efforts being made to bring about improvements in this area.

(300) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration explained that good results were obtained regarding the timely receipt of progress

reports in those cases where Unesco personnel were present or close to the project duty stations and could assist the experts in the preparation of those reports. UNDP resident representatives were also called upon to assist in the preparation and dispatch of project progress reports. Efforts were being made to ensure that the project progress reporting system did not become too involved or complicated since if the reporting requirements were too elaborate, the experts would not be able to meet the requirements established. Delegates were assured that procedures existed to monitor the projects closely and to ensure that the responsible person could be contacted when delays occurred or when help was required.

(301) The Director-General's efforts and the transparency in document 23 C/42 were appreciated and it was noted with satisfaction that the External Auditor in his report had expressed appreciation of the co-operation and assistance received from the staff during his audit.

(302) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference, the adoption of the draft resolution on item 9.2 (23 C/Resolution 33.2).

ITEM 9.3 - FINANCIAL REPORT AND INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF UNESCO AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1985

(303) The Chairman drew the attention of the Commission to the relevant documents for this agenda item and to the draft decision appearing in paragraph 3 of document 23 C/43.

(304) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) introduced this item by referring to Financial Regulation 11.1 which provides that at the end of the first year of the financial period, the Director-General shall submit to the Executive Board and to the General Conference an interim financial report on the significant financial developments which the Organization has experienced during the first year of the financial period together with unaudited financial statements. Pursuant to Financial Regulation 12.10 the Executive Board had examined these interim financial reports and supporting unaudited financial statements. The decision of the Executive Board was contained in document 23 C/43 Addendum. The unaudited interim accounts and financial statements would, of course, be taken into account by the External Auditor in his examination of the accounts for the two years 1984 and 1985, before he issued his certification of the accounts and the financial statements covering the entire 1984-1985 financial period.

(305) The Assistant Director-General explained that the interim financial report covered the regular programme and all extra-budgetary ac-

counts including the United Nations Development Programme. He stated that the accounts were presented on nine financial statements, supported by six detailed schedules. In order to reduce the size of the document, the construction-in-progress accounts had been excluded but these accounts would be submitted to the External Auditor at the end of the two-year financial period (1984-1985) together with the other unaudited financial statements. As in previous financial reports, several individual extra-budgetary accounts had been grouped together and presented in columnar form so as to further reduce the overall number of individual statements required. All the statements in the report were presented in a vertical arrangement in order to facilitate reading and understanding of the financial data presented.

(306) The ADG/ADM then summarized the main features of the Director-General's financial report. Following the introduction, the distribution of 1984 programme expenditures by source of funds was explained and the relative percentages of expenditures by source of funds were shown. In paragraph 4, it was explained that total programme expenditures in 1984 were \$243.9 million of which \$155.2 million were regular and participation programme expenditure at current rates of exchange, representing 63.6 per cent of the total - whereas United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) expenditures were \$36.5 million (or 15 per cent of the total), expenditures financed by other United Nations extra-budgetary sources were \$8.6 million (3.5 per cent of the total) and other operational extra-budgetary expenditures were \$43.6 million (17.9 per cent of the total). In paragraphs 5 to 9, two points should be noted. The first was that as at 31 December 1984, \$23.9 million remained in the budget provision designated as appropriation reserve to meet additional inflation requirements in 1985; the second was that total expenditures in 1984 of \$181 million at constant dollars were reduced by \$25.9 million from the savings realized in French and Swiss francs at actual operational rates of exchange as compared with the constant dollar rates.

(307) Paragraphs 10 to 15 of the Director-General's financial report concerned financial statement II on interim income and expenditure which, together with graph I shown on page 4 of the English text, presented the monthly rate of receipt of contributions to the regular programme. It was explained that the cash position of the Organization during 1984 had remained good, and that it had not been critical so far in 1985; but cash assets were declining, however, and difficulties could arise late in 1985 or early in 1986 unless Member States continued to pay their contributions promptly and fully as required by the rules. The Secretariat's treasury

forecast, based on certain assumptions regarding the trend in the receipt of contributions, budget expenditures and exchange rates on major currencies, was that cash outflow would continue to exceed cash inflow throughout the balance of 1985, leaving only about \$50 million in cash in the regular programme (excluding the working capital fund and associated funds) by the end of 1985 to cover unliquidated obligations and other current liabilities.

(308) Regarding graph II on page 8 of the document, the cash position of the Organization by month during 1984 could be ascertained. Graphs I and II presented very interesting pictures. From graph I it could be noted that \$66.4 million was taken into account in January 1984. This significant amount taken into account consisted mainly of the credits made to Member States for the Part VIII surplus brought forward from the 1981-1983 period. The other months of 1984 revealed the normal fluctuating pattern of monthly receipts from assessed contribution payments. With respect to graph II, which showed the cash position of the Organization at the end of each month during 1984, it was explained that contributions received from Member States during 1984 represented 74.38 per cent of the total that could have been remitted. This rate could be contrasted with the percentage for the first year of the preceding financial period which was 76.77 per cent or 2.39 per cent higher. The decline in the percentage of contributions received in 1984 was the principal factor contributing to the decrease of some \$43.5 million in the cash resources of the General Fund as at 31 December 1984 when compared with cash resources as at 31 December 1983. Nevertheless at the end of the year 1984, the overall cash position of the Organization remained in a favourable position. There was \$126.5 million in cash for the regular programme (excluding interest-free loans and Associated Funds) as could be seen by reference to graph II in the report. This favourable cash position was primarily due to the surplus under Part VIII of the budget - Currency Fluctuation - for 1981-1983, brought forward as at 1 January 1984 to be apportioned and credited to Member States' contributions in January 1984 and January 1985.

(309) Statement III, commented upon in paragraphs 15 to 21 of the financial report of the Director-General reflected the balance sheet as at 31 December 1984. Balance sheets for any entity were always very interesting statements that should receive careful study. As at 31 December 1984 total general fund cash in hand was \$2.2 million and total general fund cash invested (mainly in time deposits at banks) was \$142.4 million but total general fund current liabilities at that same date were \$83.1 million which were considered as first claims on cash assets. Net liquid cash assets were

thus \$59.3 million as at 31 December 1984.

(310) Paragraph 21 provided a breakdown of income which had been deferred in accordance with the financial regulations and which would be recognized as income in future financial periods. The breakdown of deferred income showed that miscellaneous (or other) income received during 1984 exceeded the original estimate foreseen for the two-year financial period 1984-1985 by \$1.8 million. Such income, received in excess of the original estimates, would be available to reduce contributions payable by Member States in future financial years.

(311) Statement IV, covered in paragraphs 22 and 23, indicated that the cash balance in the working capital fund as at 31 December 1984 amounted to \$19.7 million.

(312) Statements V, VI, and VII, covered in paragraphs 24 to 30 of the report, provided information on self-financing funds, welfare funds, special accounts and trust funds. The Director-General was continuing his efforts to ensure that any deficits arising under extra-budgetary accounts were rapidly brought under control by making sure that the management of such funds was effective and efficient and following sound practices and procedures. In particular he was actively negotiating the contracting out of the restaurant and cafeteria services with a view to the elimination of the accumulating and recurring deficits in that fund.

(313) Statement VIII and Appendix, covered in paragraphs 31 to 34, dealt with the UNDP programme executed by Unesco. Paragraph 34 showed the decline in the dollar value of UNDP delivery over the three years 1982, 1983, 1984. If one compared total 1983 results with 1982, the decrease in UNDP delivery was 6.1 per cent in 1983 but the decrease in total delivery in 1984 compared with 1983 was 12.7 per cent or 6.6 per cent more than the previous yearly decrease. One major reason for the decline in Unesco delivery of UNDP projects was a 9 per cent decline in the value of project budgets allotted to Unesco by UNDP. Unesco's annual project delivery was a factor of the total value of UNDP project budgets allotted to Unesco. Another important factor in the declining delivery level was the strengthening of the US dollar in 1984, resulting in a lower valuation being placed on physical project inputs as a result of the conversion of project expenditures made in local currencies into US dollars for accounting purposes. The third factor, which was explained in paragraph 32 of the document, was the lower inflationary trends experienced in 1984. The table in paragraph 34 showed the breakdown of UNDP project delivery by major component. The decline in project personnel of 20.6 per cent was the most significant decline. Training declined by only

3.9 per cent, equipment by 5.0 per cent, subcontracts by 4.5 per cent and miscellaneous by only 2.1 per cent. The changes in the project components reflected the emphasis or priorities assigned to various components by recipient countries and was not the result of unilateral action taken by Unesco or UNDP for that matter.

(314) Paragraph 35 reported on gifts received by the Organization. Following paragraph 35 was a comprehensive listing of the significant accounting policies of Unesco. This information, while technical to some extent, should be extremely useful to Member States for their auditing authorities because such statements of accounting policies were taking an increased importance in the auditing, accounting and financial fields. These significant policies explained how transactions and financial matters were handled in Unesco and could be compared with other similar statements in other United Nations Organizations or even in other institutions and entities.

(315) Commenting on Schedule 2 and in particular Annex 2.1 concerning contributions receivable from Member States for the financial period 1981-1983, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration informed the members of the Commission that financial statements reflected the situation as at 31 December 1984; data recorded in Unesco's books as at that date followed prescribed normal accounting rules, practices and procedures. This comment had a specific relevance to the second instalment of the credit made to Member States on account of the Part VIII budget surpluses that arose in 1981-1983. For many Member States, such credits might not present a problem but in the case of the Member State that had withdrawn from membership in Unesco effective 31 December 1984, it would mean that the 1 January 1985 credit of \$17,256,128 reduced the 1984 assessment balance to \$7,828,692 which was about equal to the \$5,000,000 remaining in the working capital fund plus other budget surpluses not yet distributed which if applied would cover the remaining amount due.

(316) Concluding his introduction, the Assistant Director-General expressed the hope that the financial information contained in the report and unaudited statements provided the data needed by the General Conference. Since this was the first time that such a document containing the unaudited annual accounts was being submitted, the Secretariat had not wished to condense excessively the traditional information available to the Board and the General Conference. Although conscious of the need for economy, and reductions in the size of documents, not many of the normal financial statements and schedules had been omitted in order to maintain the coherence and consistency of presentation. Such statements were also an important part

of the institutional memory of the Organization and would be necessary for reference purposes in the future. Nevertheless, comments and guidance were requested from members of the Commission regarding the form and scope of similar documents they would wish to receive in the future.

(317) With regard to the reallocation of the credit of \$10,000 received from the Government of Japan mentioned earlier by the Assistant Director-General in connection with document 23 C/41, one member of the Commission asked where the adjustment mentioned by the ADG/ADM appeared in Statement VII/A of the financial statements as of 31 December which were shown in document 23 C/43. In reply, the ADG/ADM confirmed that the adjustment for the \$10,000 received from the Member State raising the question had been made in 1984 and indicated that the debit entry appeared in Section E page 6 of Statement VII/A under the Trust Fund for the establishment of the Nubia Museum in Aswan and the National Museum of Egyptian Civilization in Cairo; the credit entry was included under the Japanese Trust Fund shown on page 4 of the same statement. The delegate was not satisfied that the explanation given by the ADG/ADM was correct, and said that the credit entry should concern the Japan account shown in page 3 of statement VII/A. The ADG/ADM assured her that the matter would be investigated very carefully by the Unesco Chief Accountant; the detail would be discussed with her so that if any further adjustments were required they would be made. The Member State was assured that the Organization was most appreciative of its Government's generosity and that the \$10,000 donated had been recorded properly.

(318) Another member of the Commission, referring to paragraph 14 of the Director-General's report, noted the very large excess of interest on investments and exchange adjustments (net) over the amount estimated, which had reached about \$8 million at 31 December 1984, and asked what criteria and assumptions had been used in the calculation of the estimate of \$9.5 million in interest income for the 1984-1985 financial period. He also wished to know why the estimated figure for interest income on investments, as shown in document 23 C/5 Draft was only \$210,000, which he felt was on the low side, and asked how this amount had been calculated by the Secretariat.

(319) The representative of the Director-General replied that the estimates of interest income on investments included in the C/5 documents were prepared about one year in advance of the budget period. Consequently, the basis for the calculation was the assumption made at that time and could obviously be somewhat imprecise since it was difficult to forecast what the interest rates might be two to three years in advance

of the actual investments. Likewise, it was impossible to forecast exchange rates which on the basis of hindsight could look very easy to forecast. It was this factor, i.e. exchange rates that had resulted in the very large interest surplus in 1984 resulting from the investment of the budget surplus accumulated under Part VIII of the budget regarding currency fluctuation carried over from 1981-1983, which had not been foreseen when the budget estimate for investment interest income for 1984-1985 had been determined. The Unesco practice was to follow a conservative approach when making such estimates which had been prepared in early 1983 in order to avoid cash deficits occurring in the actual miscellaneous income realized when compared with that estimated inasmuch as such deficits would have to be financed by advances from the working capital fund.

(320) For 1986-1987, the estimate for investment interest income was only a nominal amount, which corresponded with the estimate approved for the biennium 1977-1978 when Unesco also had to contend with a difficult financial situation. The 1986-1987 budget period would obviously be an extremely difficult financial period and interest rates on world markets were declining.

(321) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration explained that the interest rates used for projections were not based exclusively on historical events. Several factors were taken into account in making the investment income estimates, including the expected dates upon which contributions were received from Member States which was a very speculative exercise.

(322) One member of the Commission expressed satisfaction regarding the new arrangements for the preparation of unaudited financial statements for submission to the Executive Board and to the General Conference. In his view, this should prove more economical in future financial periods while at the same time make available the needed information.

(323) The Commission unanimously recommended that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 9.3 (23 C/Resolution 33.3).

ITEM 9.4 - SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES

(324) In his introduction, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) explained that the scale of assessments for Member States' contributions to Unesco had always been based on the most recent scale of assessments adopted by the United Nations General Assembly. Adjustments were made to the scale of assessments of the United Nations to take into account the differences in membership between the United Nations Organization and Unesco. For non-Member States of the

United Nations but Member States of Unesco, the rate used was that which was applied by the United Nations to such States in assessing contributions for the expenses of those United Nations activities in which they participated.

(325) The scale of assessments shown in the proposed resolution in document 23 C/5 was based on the scale adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-seventh session in 1982 for the period 1983-1985. However, as stated in paragraph C 41 on page 143 of Volume I of document 23 C/5, this scale of assessments should be considered as indicative and subject to modification since the United Nations General Assembly might modify its scale of assessments at its fortieth session.

(326) The United Nations Committee on Contributions had recommended a new scale of assessments for the United Nations for the period 1986-1988 in July 1985. Accordingly, the table annexed to document 23 C/44 gave the probable Unesco scale of assessments for 1986-1987 based on that scale recommended by the United Nations Committee on Contributions for the United Nations for the period 1986-1988.

(327) Since it was unlikely that the United Nations General Assembly would adopt the scale of assessments for the United Nations for the period 1986-1988 before the closure of the current session of the General Conference, the Director-General recommended, as had been the practice in the past, that the scale of assessments of Unesco for the financial period 1986-1988 should be calculated on the scale of assessments adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its current session. A modification to this effect to paragraph 4 (a) of the proposed resolution in document 23 C/5 was provided in paragraph 4 of document 23 C/44.

(328) Furthermore, in view of the announced intention of withdrawal of two Member States, the Director-General proposed in paragraph 5 of document 23 C/44 that in the event that their withdrawal took effect, the percentage contribution of these two Member States should be treated in the same manner as that of the Member State which had already withdrawn from the Organization, namely that they be taken into account in the scale of assessments under a separate entry.

(329) Many of the delegates who spoke on this item of the agenda expressed full support for the proposals contained in document 23 C/44. They considered that the methodology used to determine the scale of contributions in the Annex to the document was acceptable and could therefore support the proposed subparagraph 4 (a) to be inserted in the draft resolution appearing on page 153 of Volume 1 of document 23 C/5 Draft without reservations. Several of these delegates also supported the proposal in paragraph 5 of document 23 C/44, which provided that in the event that the

announced withdrawal of two Member States took effect, the percentage contributions for these two Member States should be treated in the same manner as that of the Member State which had already withdrawn.

(330) Several delegates asked what criteria had been used in determining the probable Unesco scale of assessments for 1986-1987 appearing under column 2 of the Annex to document 23 C/44. They had noticed that whereas for certain large contributors, reductions appeared in the Unesco scale compared with the United Nations scale recommended by the United Nations Committee on Contributions, that was not the case for many other contributors, especially the smaller ones. One of these delegates asked whether it would be possible to alter the probable Unesco scale to rectify these differences.

(331) One delegate noted that Japan, because of its economic performance, now ranked as the largest contributor to Unesco at 10.71 per cent of the budget. This delegate felt that careful attention should be given to the views of that country's Government on financial matters. Other delegates stated that they did not share this opinion since they considered that the basic criteria used in determining the United Nations scale of assessments was designed to equalize the contribution from each Member State according to its means. One of these delegates considered that the same attention should be paid to the statements made by all delegations.

(332) One delegate felt that although the methodology used in determining the Unesco scale was correct in so far as it was based on the United Nations scale, insufficient account had been taken of the differences in membership between the United Nations and Unesco. Because the Unesco scale included the non-existent share of a State that had withdrawn from the Organization, this amounted to avoiding a correct revision of the scale and therefore prevented the redistribution of posts on the basis of equitable geographical representation. Consequently the approach being followed created an argument in favour of keeping in Unesco staff members who were citizens of a State that had withdrawn from the Organization. Although this delegate said his delegation would not object to the present scale of contributions during this transitional period, it would be necessary in future to take differences in membership fully into account in the United Nations Unesco scales of assessments.

(333) One delegate said that representations would be made in the United Nations General Assembly regarding the methodology used by the United Nations Committee on Contributions in determining the proposal scale of contributions, which was too subjective and should be made more objective. Another delegate

was surprised to hear that the scale proposed by the United Nations Committee on Contributions could be considered as subjective since it was based on criteria that had been agreed upon by the Member States in order to apportion budgets justly.

(334) A number of delegations expressed reservations concerning the probable Unesco scale included in the Annex to document 23 C/44. Most of these delegations explained that their governments had considerable difficulty in paying their present assessed contribution to the Organization. Many of these speakers drew attention to the difficult international economic situation. Two delegates drew attention to the problems arising from sizeable external debt resulting from the current oil crisis; one of these delegates said that although his country had oil resources it also had made a considerable commitment to the assistance of developing countries. Another delegate stated that although the assessed percentage for a country might not increase in the proposed scale of assessments, its contributions in the dollar amount may still increase. Another delegate said that his country had to pay proportionately more than other countries with higher percentages in the scale of assessments and had frequently stressed this point of view in the debates on the scale of assessments in the United Nations General Assembly. Another delegate said that increases in contributions were not easy to absorb for developing countries. A number of delegates in this group of speakers recalled the fact that the scale of assessments recommended by the United Nations Committee on Contributions had not yet been approved by the General Assembly and said they would oppose this scale of contributions in the debate in the United Nations. Therefore, they wished to record their reservations to the probable Unesco scale contained in the Annex to document 23 C/44.

(335) In replying to the questions and observations, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration said that the whole process of determining the scale of assessments in the Committee on Contributions of the United Nations was extremely complex. The Committee on Contributions consisted of 18 representatives of Member States elected on a broad geographical basis, whose main task was to establish a scale of assessments based on criteria established by the General Assembly. These criteria included, *inter alia*, gross national product data for Member States with market economies. For other Member States economic data was obtained through a system of national accounts or supplementary economic data. The Committee on Contributions analysed and compiled all this data very carefully. A maximum scale of assessment was fixed at 25 per cent and a minimum scale at 0.01

per cent. Adjustments were also made to take into account several special factors, such as low per capita income, availability of foreign exchange, and so on. Special adjustments were made for the least developed countries.

(336) The scale of assessments as recommended by the United Nations Committee on Contributions and approved by the General Assembly included several States that were not members of Unesco, whereas some Member States of Unesco were not members of the United Nations. Consequently a mathematical formula was used to make proportional adjustments in the rates of assessment of Unesco Member States. For the financial period 1986-1987, a reduction coefficient in the United Nations scale was necessary and the coefficient that had been used was 0.9881554. Application of this coefficient to the larger contributors had resulted in a decrease proportionate to the size of their share in the United Nations scale of assessments, but this decrease diminished as the respective rates in the United Nations scale themselves were lower. The resulting assessment rate was then rounded off to two decimal places. The reduction and rounding-off factors had proportionately reduced rates of 0.35 per cent and higher. However, for Member States with rates in the United Nations scale of 0.34 per cent and lower, no reductions had occurred.

(337) The Commission unanimously recommended to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on item 9.4 as amended (23 C/Resolution 34.1).

ITEM 9.5 - CURRENCY OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES

(338) The Chairman called the attention of the Commission to document 23 C/45 and to the draft resolution contained submitted for examination in paragraph 8.

(339) In his opening statement, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) informed the members of the Commission that document 23 C/45 concerned the choice of currency or currencies in which Member States will be required to pay their contributions to the budget and advances to the working capital fund for the 1986-1987 biennium.

(340) The Assistant Director-General explained that although Member States are requested to pay their contributions in either United States dollars, French francs or pounds sterling, the General Conference has nevertheless in the past authorized the Director-General to accept payment of contributions in the national currency of a Member State upon request if he considers that there is a foreseeable need of that currency. The ADG/ADM informed the Commission that the Director-General wished to maintain the established prin-

ciple of accepting contributions in national currencies without, however, dispersing the assets of the Organization by accumulating unusable currencies.

(341) Thus, if a Member State wished to avail itself of the possibility of paying its contribution in any currency other than United States dollars, French francs or pounds sterling, the Secretariat would study each case with a view to determining whether or not there is a foreseeable immediate use of the currency in question. The ADG/ADM assured the Commission that the Comptroller had done everything possible to accommodate requests from Member States for payment of their contributions in national currencies, including approaching the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for assistance in absorbing such currencies and their utilization in connection with other extra-budgetary activities.

(342) The members of the Commission were invited to note, however, that if a national currency were to be accepted, the exchange rate to be applied would be the most favourable which Unesco can obtain for the conversion of the currency into dollars at the date at which the contribution is credited to an account of the Organization.

(343) The ADG/ADM also drew the attention of the Commission to paragraph 6 of the document which states that the acceptance of national currency in payment of all or part of their contribution may reduce wholly or partly the acceptance of national currency in payment of Unesco coupons. It would therefore be for a Member State to decide whether it wished to give priority to payment of its contribution or to the purchase of Unesco coupons when making its request for acceptance of its national currency.

(344) During the discussion of this item, several members of the Commission expressed their support for the resolution proposed in paragraph 8 of the document and commended the Director-General on his efforts to accept national currencies from Member States in payment of their contributions. They felt that these efforts should be pursued in order that maximum use might be made of national currencies in the execution of the Programme.

(345) One delegate noted that progress in the decentralization of programme execution should make increased use of national currencies possible.

(346) Another delegate insisted on the importance his country accorded to the Unesco coupons scheme and supported paragraph (c) of the proposed resolution, in which this additional possibility of utilizing national currencies was mentioned.

(347) Two other members of the Commission pointed out that their countries were hosting Unesco Regional Offices and that this constituted a further

potential for Unesco to use their national currencies.

(348) Two delegates, while agreeing that the acceptance of national currencies was a worthy goal, shared the concern expressed in paragraphs 4 and 5 of document 23 C/45 to the effect that acceptance of such currencies should be limited to the short-term needs of the Organization in any given currency, in order to prevent the accumulation of unusable currencies.

(349) In answer to questions raised during the discussion on this item, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration recalled the role played by the United Nations Development Programme which serves as a clearing house for the use of national currency, and stated that Unesco had been using this UNDP facility to the maximum extent. In fact, permanent contact was maintained with UNDP central financial service for that purpose.

(350) The ADG/ADM added that the collaboration with UNDP and with other agencies of the United Nations system also helps Unesco at times to accept national currencies not only for the payment of contributions but for the purchase of coupons by interested governmental institutions.

(351) In answer to the concern which had been expressed by several delegates, the ADG/ADM reiterated that before accepting national currencies the Secretariat always analysed foreseeable needs to avoid tying up the Organization's assets. On the other hand, where special needs arose, UNDP and other agencies were contacted immediately to assess their capability of absorbing specific national currencies.

(352) The same two members of the Commission wished to know the amount of contributions which the Director-General had been able to accept in payment of contributions in national currencies for the 1984-1985 biennium to date.

(353) In reply, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration indicated that a total of approximately \$1,019,000 of contributions had been received in national currencies during that period, from five Member States.

(354) One delegate then asked for clarification of the data appearing in Schedule 1, Annex 1.1 of the audited accounts for the financial period ended on 31 December 1983 (document 23 C/41), which showed that the total currencies other than the normal currencies of payments which were held by the Organization at 31 December 1983 amounted to some \$2 million. He pointed out that the ADG/ADM had made the point that the Organization only accepted currencies that could be used in a short period of time and wondered whether the figure shown in the account and which he had just quoted reflected that general aim.

(355) In his reply, the ADG/ADM first informed the delegate that the

corresponding figure was now \$1.2 million and that the amounts given in Annex 1.1 of the accounts covered interest and current accounts in different currencies for all programmes including trust funds and the UNDP programme, on which a wide variety of national currencies are held on a short-term basis for the financing of current expenditure.

(356) The Chairman then asked the members of the Commission to consider the text of the proposed resolution, and the Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on item 9.5 (23 C/Resolution 34.2).

ITEM 9.6 - COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES

(357) The Assistant Director-General (ADG/ADM) introduced document 23 C/46 and Add. which he divided into three parts: the first part dealt with the status of contributions for the financial period 1984-1985 as at 31 August 1985; the second part dealt with the treasury situation throughout the 1984-1985 period up to 31 August 1985; and the third part dealt with the report to the General Conference on the implementation of the decisions taken at its twenty-first session approving the payment of the arrears of contributions due from Democratic Kampuchea and Nicaragua up to 31 December 1980, in annual instalments commencing from 1981, as well as the implementation of the decisions taken at its twenty-second session approving the payment of the arrears of contributions due from Chad and Grenada up to 31 December 1983 in annual instalments commencing from 1984.

(358) With regard to the status of contributions received for the 1984-1985 financial period, paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 of the document showed that contributions received as at 31 August 1985, taking into account cash surpluses credited to Member States, amounted to \$160.9 million or 93.4 per cent in respect of the year 1984 and \$91.9 million or 53.4 per cent in respect of 1985. If, however, half the amount assessed on the United States of America for 1984-1985 were deducted from the figure of the total contributions for 1985, the amount of contributions received by 31 August 1985 of \$91.9 million represented 75.2 per cent of the total to be remitted in 1985.

(359) As at 31 August 1985, of the 158 Member States requested to contribute to the budget for the 1984-1985 financial period, 114 had paid their contribution in full for 1984 and 61 had paid their contribution in full for 1985. In addition, 17 Member States had paid part of their contribution for 1984 and 47 had paid part for 1985. On the other hand, 27 Member States had not paid any contributions for the 1984-1985 financial period.

(360) The Assistant Director-General then informed delegates that the status of contributions due and received at 30 September 1985 was contained in the document which had just been distributed to the Commission. The new figures therefore updated the information contained in Annex I of document 23 C/46. During the month of September 1985, contributions amounting to \$13.3 million had been received from 26 Member States, and in October a further \$345,954 had been received in contributions from 15 Member States.

(361) Apart from the customary letters of assessment, special reminder letters had been sent by the Director-General to all Member States with arrears of contributions for the current and prior financial periods inviting them to pay at the earliest the full amounts due, in accordance with the decisions of the Executive Board at its 120th session (September-October 1984), at its fourth special session (February 1985) and at its 121st session (May-June 1985). Special letters (plus subsequent reminder cables) had also been sent at the end of June 1985 to those Member States who were in arrears with their contributions to an extent which could entail the application of the provisions of paragraph 8 (b) of Article IV.C of the Constitution concerning voting rights at the twenty-third session of the General Conference.

(362) Regarding the treasury situation, the overall cash position of the Organization had remained favourable during 1984-1985 to date. On the other hand, the monthly cash flow position had varied considerably because of the irregular pattern in the flow of contributions received. This irregular pattern made cash forecasting and treasury planning extremely difficult and unreliable. Moreover, as could be noted from Annex II to document 23 C/46 which showed the monthly totals of contributions received and from paragraph 5.2 of the document, there was a tendency among the larger contributors to the budget to pay their contributions towards the end of the year in which they became due. If this tendency continued, it would create serious financial difficulties for the Organization in the future. The solution to this problem lay with the Member States through the regular and timely payment of their contributions.

(363) Concerning payment plans approved by the General Conference at its twenty-first and twenty-second sessions, Democratic Kampuchea and Nicaragua had paid the instalments due for 1984 and 1985 while Grenada had paid the instalment due for 1984. On the other hand, Chad had not yet paid the instalment due for 1984-1985.

(364) The ADG/ADM then informed the Commission that in a letter dated 2 October 1985 addressed to the Director-General, the Government of Burkina Faso had expressed its desire to

pay its contributions arrears by instalments starting in 1986. In a subsequent letter, it had been indicated that it wished to pay its contributions arrears over a ten-year period commencing with 1986. The arrears owed were as follows: for the period 1981-1983, \$31,925; for the period 1984-1985, \$34,470; making a total of \$66,395.

(365) At the last session of the General Conference, similar requests had been received from two Member States; in each of these cases the General Conference had accepted payment of the arrears in ten annual instalments beginning in the first year of the following biennium. If the General Conference was to accept the same type of arrangement for this Member State, it might wish to adopt a draft resolution on the settlement of arrears of contributions (23 C/Resolution 34.4).

(366) The Commission was informed that a draft resolution regarding the collection of contributions was contained in paragraph 10.1 of document 23 C/46.

(367) Three members of the Commission drew attention to the report by the Secretariat, which showed that the receipt of contributions was satisfactory at the end of August and at the end of September 1985. They considered that the various follow-up letters and appeals from the Director-General had produced a good response and that Member States were doing their best to pay their contributions on time despite serious financial difficulties. One of these delegates was impressed by the percentages in the statement of contributions as at 30 September 1985, which often showed figures of up to 99.9 per cent of contributions received. This delegate wished to know whether a very great improvement had taken place in these figures from the commencement of the year, when - according to an Executive Board document he had seen - arrears had been of a higher order.

(368) Other delegates drew attention to the pattern of payment of contributions, noting that the receipt of payments from some major contributors was slowing down and that this tendency could create difficulties for the Organization in the future. One delegate stressed that if the cash situation had been good over the last few years, this was due to an accumulation of surpluses under Part VIII - currency fluctuation of the budget for 1981-1983. He felt that the new provision that 75 per cent of such budget surpluses should be immediately refunded at the close of a financial period could change the situation in the future, and might have important implications on the cash flow. Another delegate considered that in the present extraordinary budget situation the problem of cash liquidity deserved special consideration. This delegate wondered what could be done to remedy the unsatisfactory situation regarding

the late payment of contributions on the part of some Member States: positive incentives might be devised which would encourage Member States to pay their contributions in a more timely manner. He also thought that the delay caused by waiting for each ordinary session of the General Conference in order to know which Member States had paid their contributions late was too great, and wondered whether it would not be advisable to publish a list during the course of the biennium. Two other delegates did not consider it advisable to introduce an 'honour-role' system indicating those Member States who were paying their contributions in a timely manner and those who were not, during the financial period.

(369) One delegate expressed serious concern at the late payment of contributions by certain major contributors. He felt that reforms should be introduced to encourage Member States to respect the provisions of the Financial Regulations regarding the time allowed for payment of contributions, in particular the provisions of Financial Regulation 5.5. He noted that the Executive Board had been obliged to call on Member States to make payments of their contributions on time on three occasions over the past financial period. This delegate had noted that in another international organization, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the cash position had not suffered from late payment of contributions to the extent it had in Unesco. Noting that the countries which paid Unesco late paid promptly in ITU, he suggested that this might be the result of a special provision in the Regulations of ITU providing for interest to be charged on late payment. Although he did not necessarily support the concept of penalties, which might be harmful to Member States which encountered legitimate difficulties in meeting their payments, he would not oppose a move to provide incentives if it were made. Providing incentives for punctual payments might be the more effective approach. He therefore proposed the following amendment to the draft resolution:

'Requests the Director-General to study the feasibility and desirability of providing positive incentives to Member States to pay their contributions promptly as well as possible measures to achieve such a policy objective, including where necessary, amendments to the Financial Regulations and to report thereon to the Executive Board and to the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference; in undertaking the study the Director-General and the Executive Board should consider practices and developments in other Specialized Agencies'.

This proposed amendment was supported by several delegates who considered that a study of the issues identified would be extremely useful. One delegate requested that the study should take careful note

of the comments made in the debate on this question in the Administrative Commission. Another delegate, while supporting the idea, wished to know whether studies of a similar nature had been carried out in recent years. Two delegates expressed the view that the question was a very sensitive one, and that very careful consideration would have to be given to the full implication before recommendations are made.

(370) One delegate said that the question of financial sanctions and incentives was one of the oldest in the United Nations system. He felt that ITU had a special type of operation and that contributions by Member States were paid for services rendered, somewhat like paying an electricity bill. Because there were many different budget systems operating in the various Member States, this would always cause difficulties.

(371) Several delegates were strongly opposed to the concept of introducing any type of sanctions for the late payment of contributions. One delegate said that sanctions could increase arrears unless overdue accounts was re-scheduled. Another delegate said that sanctions already existed through the denial of voting rights for late payers. However, another delegate said that it should be enough to make Member States fully aware of their obligations under the Financial Regulations to pay their contributions promptly. Several other delegates felt that there might be legal problems if the proposed amendment to include an additional paragraph in the draft resolution regarding incentive payments was accepted.

(372) One delegate did not consider the denial of voting rights to be a useful sanction. In his experience, Member States could write a letter requesting the maintenance of voting rights when they were in arrears; the General Conference always acquiesced. This delegate proposed an amendment to the draft resolution expressing gratitude to those Member States which had paid their contributions on time; such contributors received very little thanks for their efforts whereas sympathy was freely given to late payers. His amendment would insert in the second paragraph of the draft resolution an expression of appreciation to those Member States which had paid on time and those which had speeded up the payment of their contributions in response to appeals.

(373) One delegate felt that the time limit in Financial Regulation 5.5 allowing only one month to pay contributions after the date of the receipt of the letter from the Director-General was too short. Another delegate agreed with this view and suggested that perhaps the time period could be extended up to three months. Another delegate expressed reservations regarding the second last paragraph of the draft resolution. This delegate asked whether the Secretariat can take exceptional measures when

informing Member States that their contributions were due, especially since the approval of the scale of assessments depended upon a decision of the United Nations General Assembly and this decision might not be taken until the middle of December 1985.

(374) Several delegates asked whether the last paragraph in the draft resolution authorizing the Director-General to negotiate and contract short-term loans was in the appropriate place in a resolution concerning the collection of contributions. Two of these delegates considered that it would be preferable to include such a paragraph in the resolution dealing with the level and administration of the working capital fund, because borrowing would be needed only when the resources in the Working Capital Fund were inadequate. It was also suggested by one of the delegates that it might be appropriate to include the provision authorizing the Director-General to contract short-term loans in the appropriation resolution.

(375) In reply to the questions and comments, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration said that the need to borrow funds was linked to the collection of contributions. Failure by contributors to pay on time resulted in liquidity problems; that was why it had been the practice to insert the provision authorizing short-term borrowing in the resolution on the collection of contributions. Loans had been made under this provision only once in 1977 when a short-term loan of \$7 million had been made for one month. The loan had not increased the budget of the Organization, although interest charges of some \$38,000 had been paid and charged to the budget for that item.

(376) He informed the Commission that a very thorough study of the treasury situation had been made by a Special Committee of the Executive Board in 1978. The Executive Board had not accepted the recommendations made in the study or endorsed charging penalties or giving rewards. There had been considerable opposition from many members of the Executive Board to any system of special sanctions or rewards. Very recently, a study had been completed by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with the essential feature increasing the amount of interest income credited to a Member State that paid its contribution at an early stage. The ICAO report had not yet been considered by its Governing Body, but the Unesco Secretariat would be informed when the matter was taken up and of any developments in that respect. Regarding the charging of interest as a penalty in ITU, it was the ADG/ADM's understanding that interest was charged because the host government provided the working capital for that Organization.

(377) The ADG/ADM noted that the figures of 99.9 per cent in the informal

document circulated showing the collection of contributions as at 30 September 1985 covered financial periods dating back for quite some time; it was usual that such arrears for prior financial periods were reduced before the opening of a General Conference, because of the consequences of a possible loss of voting rights. No other special conclusion could be drawn from these figures.

(378) With regard to follow-up action on outstanding contributions, he assured delegates that all measures within the power of the Secretariat were being taken. These measures also included personal contact with delegates at Headquarters, regular reminder letters and telegrams.

(379) The Comptroller, in reply to a question on the arrears of contributions due from the British Eastern Caribbean Group (BECG) said that a very special problem had arisen in the case of that Associate Member State. The Secretariat had been in touch with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland since it was that Government that had applied for membership on behalf of the BECG. An exchange of correspondence had taken place and the latest reminder from the Secretariat was dated June 1985. The Secretariat had no reason to believe that a reply would not be forthcoming and understood that the matter was being studied by the United Kingdom Government.

(380) The delegate of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland confirmed that his Government was working on the problem of the arrears of contributions of the British Eastern Caribbean Group and would do all that it could to find a solution.

(381) In response to a question, the representative of the Legal Adviser added that neither the Constitution nor the Financial Regulations specified on what grounds loans could be authorized for cash shortages. It was only the disposition of Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference that referred to loans specifying that a two-thirds majority was required to authorize loans the repayment of which would necessitate the inclusion of appropriations in the budget for more than one financial period. Consequently, it was the General Conference that established the right of the Director-General to contract short-term loans. The General Conference could decide where best to incorporate such borrowing authorization.

(382) With regard to the opinion of one delegate that legal advice should be sought regarding the proposed amendment of an additional paragraph to the draft resolution, the ADG/ADM said that what was being called for was a study. Consequently no change was being proposed in any modalities at this stage; a decision on that matter could only be taken by the appropriate authority after the study was considered.

(383) The Commission decided unanimously to propose to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on this item (23 C/Resolution 34.3).

(384) With regard to the request received from a Member State for the payment of its contribution by annual instalments, one delegate proposed that the name of Burkina Faso be deleted from the draft resolution proposed by the Director-General. This delegate felt that in future resolutions of this kind, names of Member States should not be included because of the delicacy of the matter. He further moved that delegation of authority be given by the General Conference to the Director-General, to discuss with governments requests for payments in annual instalments and to make appropriate arrangements with them. This proposal was seconded by another delegate who considered that the time of the General Conference should not be taken up by such matters.

(385) In reply, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration said that Member States could always make proposals for payments plans. However, in accordance with the Financial Regulations it was only the General Conference that could approve such requests. It was his opinion that the Director-General might be very hard-pressed in deciding on requests from Member States.

(386) Some other delegates expressed the opinion that such requests could run to sizeable amounts. Whereas the Director-General might be authorized to deal with requests involving tens of thousands of dollars, it might not be advisable to delegate authority concerning millions of dollars.

(387) The representative of the Legal Adviser said that in his opinion the amendment proposed did not conform with Articles 3.7 and 5.5 of the Financial Regulations.

(388) The Chairman considered that the amendment proposed was complicated by the inclusion of a general proposal in a specific case. He was of the opinion that the draft resolution of the Secretariat conformed with established precedents to ensure discipline in payments of contributions.

(389) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the second draft resolution on item 9.6 (23 C/Resolution 34.4).

ITEM 9.7 - WORKING CAPITAL FUND: LEVEL AND ADMINISTRATION

(390) In his introduction the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) explained that document 23 C/47 consisted of two main parts. Part I, dealing with the level and administration of the working capital fund, had been prepared pursuant to Financial Regulation 6.2 which specified

'There shall be established a working capital fund in an amount and for purposes to be determined from time to time by the General Conference'. Document 23 C/47 addressed these two questions in Section C (Proposed use of the Fund's resources during the financial period 1986-1987) and Section D (Proposed level of the Fund for the financial period 1986-1987).

(391) Part II of the document concerned a proposal dealing with the continued operation, in 1986-1987, of the Fund established to assist Member States acquire educational and scientific material they consider necessary for technological developments, at a maintained level of \$2 million.

(392) The ADG/ADM then informed the delegates that Part I, Section A, of the document gave a brief outline of the establishment and objectives of the Fund; Part I, Section B, gave an account of the use of the Fund's resources during the financial period 1984-1985. Paragraph 10 of the document explained that at the end of the year 1984, a total of \$15.1 million in construction costs had to be financed from the Organization's own resources. Had the resources of the General Fund been insufficient, it would have been necessary to call on the resources of the Working Capital Fund for this purpose. He said that the financing requirements for construction costs already incurred would continue into the next financial period and were expected to average some \$12.6 million in 1986 and some \$10.8 million in 1987, if the amortization provisions foreseen under Part VI (Capital Expenditure) in document 23 C/5 Draft were not altered or deferred.

(393) In accordance with resolution 30.1 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session, the Executive Board at its 121st session had examined a study prepared by the Director-General on the level and use of the Working Capital Fund. With regard to the proposed use of the Working Capital Fund during 1986-1987, a few members of the Executive Board's Finance and Administrative Commission had expressed the view that the Working Capital Fund should be used only to finance expenditures under the regular budget pending the receipt of assessed contributions from Member States. Nevertheless the following paragraph had been included by the Executive Board in its decision after considering the Director-General's study, as a recommendation to the General Conference:

'The Executive Board,
Considers that the Working Capital Fund should continue to have as its principal objective the provision of finance for budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions and that, after providing for this contingency, other uses similar to those approved by the General Conference for the administration of the

Fund for the financial period 1984-1985 should be included again in the draft resolution proposed to the General Conference for the biennium 1986-1987'.

(394) With regard to the level of the Working Capital Fund, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration said that it should be recalled that at its 98th and 100th sessions the Executive Board, recognizing that there was a relationship between the level of the total budget and the level of the Working Capital Fund, had recommended that the General Conference determine the level of the Working Capital Fund for any given biennium at 7.5 per cent of the total appropriation for the financial period concerned. On the basis of that recommendation, the General Conference had decided at its nineteenth session to fix the authorized level of the Working Capital Fund for 1977-1978 at \$16,800,000, representing approximately 7.5 per cent of the total appropriation voted by the General Conference for that financial period. The 7.5 per cent relationship was considered logical and reasonable in view of the decision taken by the General Conference at its nineteenth session to amend Financial Regulation 3.9 so as to increase, to 7.5 per cent of the total appropriation for the financial period, the maximum amount of supplementary appropriations which the Executive Board was authorized to provisionally approve. Since supplementary appropriations provisionally approved by the Executive Board must of necessity be financed by the Working Capital Fund pending the authorization from the General Conference to assess against Member States the additional amount in contributions required, it was felt that the Working Capital Fund should represent at least 7.5 per cent of the original appropriation for the financial period concerned. In this way it was expected that extraordinary sessions of the General Conference would not have to be convened to consider budget problems resulting from currency fluctuations, such as had occurred in 1973.

(395) If a 7.5 per cent ratio had been used for the 1984-1985 financial period, the level of the Working Capital Fund would have been increased from \$20,000,000 to more than \$28,000,000. As stated in paragraph 329 of the Introduction to the document 22 C/5 Draft, while considering an increase in the Working Capital Fund to 7.5 per cent of the budget highly desirable, the Director-General did not propose such an increase because of the financial difficulties many Member States were experiencing and because of the uncertain economic situation which prevailed at the time. The question of a need for an increase in the level of the Working Capital Fund at the time was also influenced by the gradual build up of a significant surplus under Part VIII (Currency Fluctuation) of the budget for 1981-1983. This

significant surplus, apportioned to Member States at the beginning of 1984 and 1985 has improved the operating cash position for the current financial period. Such an exceptional surplus which arose over the special three-year financial period 1981-1983 was most unlikely to recur. On the other hand adverse currency fluctuations could and would create serious budget and cash flow problems for the Organization in the future.

(396) The overall cash inflow and outflow in the Unesco General Fund during 1984 and the first six months of 1985 was shown in Annex III of document 23 C/47. These figures represented the total increase or inflow and the total decrease or (outflow) in the bank accounts from month to month during this 18-month period. The cumulative decrease in the General Fund's cash resources during 1984 totalled \$43,508,000 and an additional decrease of \$25,114,000 was experienced during the first six months of 1985. The Secretariat's treasury forecast, taking into account certain assumptions regarding the trend in the receipt of contributions from Member States, budget expenditures and exchange rates on major currencies, was that cash decrease (outflow) would continue during the remainder of 1985. At the end of 1985, the total cash resources of the General Fund, in addition to other cash resources available from associated funds such as the Public Information and Liaison Fund, was expected to decrease to about \$50,000,000. The downward trend in cash flow was expected to continue and it might well prove necessary to use the resources of the Working Capital Fund in the first half of the year 1986, especially if contributions were not forthcoming from Member States and/or the US dollar declined sharply in 1986 below the French franc exchange rate used in costing the 1986-1987 budget as approved.

(397) Although advances from the Working Capital Fund had not been required to finance budget expenditures pending the receipt of contributions during 1984-1985, even though there were considerable delays in the receipt of contribution payments, in the past ten years frequent recourse had been made to the Working Capital Fund. A description of such use appeared in paragraph 20 of the document.

(398) From paragraph 17 of document 23 C/47 it would be seen that at present the percentage of the budget appropriation to the level of the Working Capital Fund, when taken together with other established cash reserves against currency fluctuations and inflation, was lower in Unesco than in any of the other major organizations of the United Nations system.

(399) Taking into account, all these factors, which had also been carefully considered by the Executive

Board's Finance and Administrative Commission at its 121st session, it had been decided to recommend to the General Conference that the level of the Working Capital Fund should be maintained at \$20,000,000 for the financial period 1986-1987. At a level of \$20,000,000, the Fund represented 5.5 per cent of the total budgetary appropriation appearing in document 23 C/5 Draft (\$363,781,000) or 6.69 per cent of the provisional effective working budget of \$298,851,000 (based on an exchange rate of FF8.10 to the dollar as used in document 23 C/5 Rev. 2. Both these percentages were less than the 7.5 per cent minimum level already endorsed by the General Conference at its nineteenth session, when it authorized the level of the Working Capital Fund. At a level of \$20,000,000 for 1986-1987, the Working Capital Fund would represent less than two months' average expenditure based upon the provisional effective working budget currently foreseen.

(400) The resolution regarding the level and administration of the Working Capital Fund which appeared on page 159 of Volume I of document 23 C/5 Draft conformed to the recommendation of the Executive Board that the level of the Working Capital Fund for the financial period 1986-1987 should be maintained at \$20,000,000.

(401) The ADG/ADM went on to inform the delegates that the effective cash balance in the Working Capital Fund would be reduced from the \$20,000,000 level approved by the General Conference at its twenty-second session to \$15,000,000 as a result of the withdrawal of the United States of America. It should be noted that the United States still has arrears in excess of \$5,000,000 on account of its 1984 remittance.

(402) Normally, the authorized level of the Working Capital Fund was financed by advances received from Member States on the basis of the scale of assessments as determined by the General Conference. This procedure was presented as Option I in Part I, Section F, of document 23 C/47. However, in the light of the decision of the fourth special session of the Executive Board that the assessed contributions of any Member States should not be increased as a consequence of the withdrawal of a Member State, and in order to maintain the effective level of the Working Capital Fund at \$20,000,000 without requiring Member States to make good the shortfall of \$5,000,000 on the basis of their respective scale of assessment percentages, the Director-General had also presented three additional options to provide the financing required to maintain the fund at \$20,000,000 during 1986-1987. The Commission was invited to consider these options and decide to recommend one of the three to maintain the fund at the \$20,000,000 level.

(403) The second and third of the

options proposed for obtaining the resources necessary to maintain the effective level of the fund at \$20,000,000 were based on the existing procedures used by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). These procedures authorized use of miscellaneous income and interest earned on the investment of the Working Capital Fund's balance to be credited to the Working Capital Fund. The fourth option whereby the necessary resources could be obtained would involve the transfer of the amount necessary from savings of \$5,655,698 realized during 1984 on the liquidation of obligations brought forward from the 1981-1983 budget period.

(404) The Assistant Director-General for Administration then drew attention to Part I, Section F, of document 23 C/47, which provided a detailed description of each of the four options proposed for the financing of the \$5 million required to restore the effective level of the Working Capital Fund to \$20 million together with precise wording of changes that would be required in the draft resolution proposed in document 23 C/5 Draft, if the Administrative Commission saw fit to propose one of those options to the General Conference. Options 2, 3 and 4, if one of them were adopted, would require the suspension of certain provisions of the Financial Regulations. The suspension of Financial Regulations was governed by Article 14.3 which provided that:

'No article or articles of the present Regulations may be suspended except by decision of the General Conference, taken by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. The duration of such suspension shall be specified by the General Conference.'

(405) While all four options explained in the document presented viable modalities for complying with the recommendation of the Executive Board that the level of the Working Capital Fund should be maintained during the 1986-1987 biennium at \$20,000,000, the Director-General's own preference was for the following order: Option 2, Option 4, Option 3 and lastly Option 1.

(406) The ADG/ADM then referred to the first sentence of paragraph 26 of document 23 C/47, which showed that the United States of America had not yet claimed the refund of its share of \$5 million in the Working Capital Fund. It might be appropriate, he said, for the General Conference to give authority to the Director-General to refund this balance, after liquidation of the United States' outstanding obligations, which was what the corresponding Financial Regulation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) would provide.

(407) The ADG/ADM indicated that a draft resolution would be found on page 159 of Volume I of the draft document

23 C/5. Besides the changes that would be required in the text of paragraph (a), depending on the option chosen for the financing of the Working Capital Fund, a further amendment was required. In paragraph (h) the three words in the fifth line 'repay unamortized loans' should read 'finance unamortized costs'.

(408) The Chairman invited comments from the sponsors of draft resolutions 23 C/ADM/DR.7 and DR.8 submitted under this item.

(409) The delegate who had submitted draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.7 said that his proposal would provide the Director-General with specific authority to refund to Member States balances remaining on their advances to the Working Capital Fund, if they withdrew from the Organization. It had appeared to him from reading document 23 C/47 that the Director-General lacked authority to take such action. If the Director-General's hands were tied in this respect, the adoption of his draft resolution would serve to untie them. While the delegate was open to suggestions on this point, he called attention to the corresponding regulation in FAO on this subject, which was similar to his proposal.

(410) The delegate who had submitted draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8 said he was aware that there were arguments in favour of maintaining the reduced effective level of the Working Capital Fund at \$15 million. However, he was convinced that the level should be \$20 million, since the purpose of the Fund was to have ready cash available for the Director-General to ensure the orderly implementation of the programme. While it was true that there had been surplus cash in the preceding financial period, this could very well disappear in 1986 especially as 75 per cent of any future surpluses under Part VIII (Currency Fluctuation) of the budget would have to be surrendered immediately at the close of each financial period. His draft resolution was designed to provide a method of financing the increase of \$5 million in the Working Capital Fund by using option 2, excess in miscellaneous income over the estimate made from 1984-1985. The modification to the Director-General's proposal lay in the fact that transfers to the Working Capital Fund would be made during the financial period 1986-1987 if the Executive Board were so authorized by the General Conference, and if the Board was itself convinced that the Director-General needed the transfer. To do this the temporary suspension of the relevant Financial Regulations would be required. Thus, DR.8 had been drafted after considerable thought, and in the hope that the proposals contained therein would find consensus agreement among the delegates.

(411) After the speakers had sub-

mitted the draft resolutions, and in view of the time constraints, the ADG/ADM presented the comments of the Director-General thereon orally. With regard to 23 C/ADM/DR.7, paragraph 26 of document 23 C/47 indicated that the United States advance to the Working Capital Fund had not yet been reimbursed. The Financial Regulations of Unesco were not as specific as those of FAO concerning procedures to be followed in respect of making reimbursements from the Working Capital Fund to Member States after they had withdrawn. The non-reimbursement of the advance of the United States of America, however, was not due so much to the lack of authority to do so, but to the fact that a refund had not been requested by that Government. Based upon discussions with the Observer Mission, it appeared that the United States Government would not request repayment of its share in the Working Capital Fund but wished this amount to be used as an offset against the amount of about \$7.5 million due to Unesco in respect of the contribution for 1984. Otherwise the ADG/ADM found that the draft resolution proposed was acceptable except that he felt that the second and third preambular paragraphs could be suppressed and changes made in operative paragraph 4 to clarify the technical aspects.

(412) With regard to draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8, the ADG/ADM indicated that the proposals contained therein corresponded to the Executive Board's proposal regarding the level for the Working Capital Fund for the next biennium, namely \$20 million. Moreover, 23 C/ADM/DR.8 proposed a method for financing the increase in the effective level of the Working Capital Fund from \$15 million to \$20 million by using one of the options that the Director-General had proposed in document 23 C/47. Consequently this draft resolution presented no problem for the Director-General.

(413) In the ensuing discussion, a few delegates indicated that they had no difficulty with the proposals contained in draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.7 regarding granting authority for the Director-General to reimburse Member States that withdraw from the Organization for their shares in the Working Capital Fund. However, one delegate objected to this proposal since he understood that the former Member State was indebted to the Organization and that it would be illogical to return its share of the Working Capital Fund if it so requested.

(414) In reply, the ADG/ADM pointed out that draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.7 might be revised along the lines of the corresponding provisions in the FAO Financial Regulations, which stipulated that a reimbursement from the Working Capital Fund would only be made after liquidation of any financial obligation

of the withdrawing Member State towards that Organization.

(415) Several delegates expressed the view that the primary purpose of the Working Capital Fund should be to finance appropriations pending the receipt of contributions from Member States. Some of those delegates expressed reservations and objections to the use of the Working Capital Fund for any other purpose. One specified that his country could not agree to the Working Capital Fund being used for advances for peace and security expenditures or capital construction expenditures, or for self-liquidating advances for trust funds and special accounts. This delegate considered that Unesco could if necessary restructure the budget in order not to tie up taxpayers' money for any contingency. Two other delegates felt that more flexibility was required and supported the use of the Working Capital Fund for all the purposes proposed by the Director-General.

(416) With regard to the level of the Working Capital Fund, several delegates considered that sound arguments had been advanced in document 23 C/47 for the increase in the effective level of the fund to \$20 million. Some delegates said that although this \$20 million level might not be needed in the immediate future it appeared that in 1986 the Working Capital Fund would be called upon, since the prospects for the cash situation were not encouraging. One delegate said that he could support the proposed increase on the condition that no extra contributions were requested from Member States and that the necessary financing for the increase could be found from internal Unesco sources. Another delegate stressed that at \$15 million the level of the Working Capital Fund was only slightly more than one month's average expenditure, which in his opinion was inadequate.

(417) On the other hand, several delegates considered that the level of the Working Capital Fund was adequate at \$15 million. Two of these delegates pointed out that the budget of the Organization would decline by some 25 per cent in the next biennium and it seemed logical that a corresponding decrease should take place in the level of the Working Capital Fund. One of them said that the level of the Working Capital Fund had represented some 5 per cent of the total budgetary appropriation during the last financial period and had not been utilized during that time. The other drew attention to paragraph 17 of document 23 C/47, which showed that the percentage of working capital funds to budgetary appropriations was lower than in Unesco in two of the five major organizations of the United Nations system. In this delegate's opinion, the level of Unesco's Working Capital Fund, corresponding at present to some 10 per cent of annual expenditure, was sufficient.

(418) Another delegate believed that although the proportion of the Working Capital Fund to the budget was lower than in Unesco both in FAO and WHO, the corresponding proportion in ILO and the United Nations Organization was much higher. He drew attention to the statement in paragraph 17 of document 23 C/47 that both FAO and WHO had other fully funded reserves that provided cash analagous to a supplementary Working Capital Fund. Other organizations also retained surpluses which became supplementary sources of working cash.

(419) With regard to the method of financing the proposed increase in the effective level of the Working Capital Fund for 1986-1987, several delegates favoured the amendment proposed in draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8, finding that it corresponded to Option 2 in the Director-General's proposals in Part I, Section F, of document 23 C/47, and also matched their own preferences. One delegate proposed the use of budgetary surpluses rather than miscellaneous income for financing the proposed increase in the fund, since in his view that source of financing related to the future and might therefore be less painful to accept. However, after further discussions this proposal was withdrawn on technical grounds.

(420) One delegate objected to the utilization of miscellaneous income to finance an increase in the effective level of the Working Capital Fund on the grounds that this violated the decision of the 4th special session of the Executive Board to the effect that the contributions to Member States should not be increased as a result of a withdrawal of a Member State. This delegate therefore objected to the proposal in draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8 to finance an increase of \$5 million in the Working Capital Fund from miscellaneous income.

(421) At this juncture, one delegate intervened to request the adjournment of the debate in order to provide time to work out a possible consensus on draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8, the proposals of which were - that delegate considered - closely linked to draft resolutions 23 C/ADM/DR.3 and DR.2 on the establishment, operation and financing of an account for end-of-service grants and indemnities. The Commission agreed to the request.

(422) When the Commission resumed its debate on the item, it decided to postpone further discussion and a decision on draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.8 in order to allow further time for the working group to reach a consensus. An open-ended working group was then established by the Chairman, it being agreed that the nucleus of the group would be composed of delegates of Brazil, Canada, Cameroon, India, Kuwait and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, although other delegates could naturally participate in the discussions of the working group as they wished.

(423) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the two draft resolutions on item 9.7 (23 C/Resolutions 35.2 and 35.3). The Commission also endorsed the proposals formulated by the informal working group (23 C/ADM/DR.10), which constituted an amendment to subparagraph (a) of the proposed draft resolution concerning the level and administration of the Working Capital Fund contained in Volume I of document 23 C/5 Draft. The Commission then decided to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on this item (23 C/Resolution 35.1).

ITEM 9.8 - AMENDMENT OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS: ADDITIONAL TERMS OF REFERENCE GOVERNING THE AUDIT

(424) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) introduced the item and noted that a representative of the External Auditor was available to help the work of the Commission. He explained that document 23 C/48 contained a proposal by the Director-General, at the invitation of the External Auditor, to amend paragraphs 5, 6 and 8 and to add a new paragraph 10 in the Appendix to the Financial Regulations entitled 'Additional terms of reference governing the audit'. These proposals related to the replacement of the existing audit certification with an audit opinion to be required of the External Auditor in relation to his responsibilities for the examination of the financial statements of the Organization. The amendments, if approved, would conform to similar amendments already adopted in the United Nations Organization itself and in other organizations of the United Nations system, and would be in line with generally accepted practice in the private sector, regarding the expression of an opinion on a set of accounts by professional auditing firms.

(425) The Annex to document 23 C/48 contained the present text of the Regulations to be amended and the proposed text, together with comments describing briefly the reasons for the changes.

(426) In accordance with the provisions of Article 14.1, the Financial Regulations could be amended only by the General Conference. A simple majority of the members present and voting was required for the approval of such amendments. The text of a proposed resolution was contained in paragraph 5 of the document.

(427) Two members of the Commission supported the draft resolution in paragraph 5 of the document on the grounds that the amendments proposed to the Financial Regulations would be an improvement and would be in harmony with similar amendments already made to the financial regulations of the United Nations Organization and other organiz-

ations of the United Nations system. One of these delegates inquired whether a two-thirds majority was not necessary to amend the financial regulations.

(428) One other delegate expressed concern over the proposed deletion of the words 'subject to the observations in my Report' from the present text of paragraph 5 of the Appendix to the Financial Regulations entitled 'Additional terms of reference governing the Audit'. He felt that the proposed revised text for the audit opinion might place the External Auditor in a more difficult position. He requested the views of the representative of the External Auditor on this point. This request was supported by another delegate.

(429) In reply, the representative of the External Auditor said that the phrase 'subject to the observations in my Report' was a qualifying statement referring to matters that should be brought to the attention of the Executive Board and the General Conference in the audit report. The proposed new text would not alter this situation in any way since these or identical terms would still be used if the External Auditor wished to report on any particular matter in relation to a qualification of his opinion on the accounts. He explained that a change was needed from the old form certificate that had been conceived for accounts prepared mostly on a cash basis. Since Unesco accounts were prepared on an accrued basis involving figures that could only be estimated, such as the amounts for unliquidated obligations, the word 'correct' in the certificate was no longer appropriate. This question had been thoroughly discussed by the United Nations Panel of External Auditors. The amendments proposed had already been adopted in the United Nations Organization and were being adopted in most other organizations of the United Nations system.

(430) The delegate who had requested clarification regarding the effect of deleting the phrase 'subject to the observations in my Report' said that although he would have preferred the retention of this phrase in the revised text, he could agree to its deletion after receiving the confirmation from the External Auditor that this formula could still be used with the new-style audit opinion, when appropriate.

(431) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration explained that Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference specified the cases where a two-thirds majority vote was required. Although the suspension of Financial Regulations was listed in Rule 81, an amendment to the Regulations was not listed in that rule. Consequently a simple majority vote could amend the Financial Regulations. He confirmed that the intention of the amendment was to harmonize Unesco's financial regulations with the financial

regulations of other organizations in the United Nations system and was to broaden the concept of an audit opinion through the proposed revised text .

(432) The Commission decided unanimously to propose to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on item 9.8 (23 C/Resolution 36.1).

ITEM 9.9 - AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 12.6 OF THE FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

'BOTH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AND THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MAY REQUEST THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR TO PERFORM CERTAIN SPECIFIC EXAMINATIONS AND TO ISSUE SEPARATE REPORTS OF THE RESULTS'

(433) At the invitation of the Chairman, the delegate of the Federal Republic of Germany introduced draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.6. He explained that the proposals contained therein were motivated by the need to provide the Executive Board with the means of exercising the responsibility foreseen in Article VB5 (b) of the Constitution, which reads as follows:

'The Executive Board, acting under the authority of the General Conference, shall be responsible for the execution of the programme adopted by the Conference. In accordance with the decisions of the General Conference and having regard to circumstances arising between two ordinary sessions, the Executive Board shall take all the necessary measures to ensure the effective and rational execution of the programme by the Director-General.'

(434) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) reminded the Commission that when draft resolutions were submitted to the General Conference the Director-General provided comments either in writing or orally. Since the draft resolution under discussion had been received by the Secretariat as recently as 15 October 1985, the oral comments of the Director-General were as follows: the attention of delegates should be drawn in the first instance to Financial Regulation 12.5 which provided that the External Auditor should be completely independent and solely responsible for the conduct of the audit. When Financial Regulation 12.6 was drafted it was borne in mind that it was the General Conference that appointed the External Auditor. It was then explained that Financial Regulation 12.10 provided that the External Auditor's report together with the audited financial statements should be transmitted through the Executive Board to the General Conference in accordance with directives given to the Executive Board by the General Conference. The Executive Board was thus required to examine the interim financial reports and supporting unaudited financial statements prepared by the Director-General pursuant to Financial Regulation 11.2 and the final audited accounts and reports of the External Auditor and to forward them to

the General Conference with such comments as it deemed appropriate. These various considerations could be considered as part of a package. When the General Conference met at its ordinary sessions, any request received from the Board for a specific report to be prepared by the External Auditor could be considered. It was for the General Conference to decide whether such a request should be transmitted to the auditor, particularly since additional work might be required of the External Auditor, entail the assignment of additional audit staff to the tasks, and lead to an increase in the audit fee. The ADG/ADM informed the Commission that the representative of the External Auditor was present in case the delegates wanted to request his views on the subject.

(435) Several delegates considered that the draft resolution, if adopted, would place the Executive Board and the General Conference on an equal footing. Consequently a legal as well as procedural problem arose. The existing Financial Regulations provided that the Executive Board should examine the reports of the External Auditor, but it was clear that only the General Conference could decide on these reports; the Executive Board was empowered to make recommendations only. One of these delegates submitted that the External Auditor could not be expected to carry out a number of requests for specific examinations and would not be able to serve two masters. Another of these delegates felt that the proposed draft resolution could not be adopted without conflicting with Article 12.10 of the Financial Regulations. While another considered that the proposed amendment to Financial Regulation 12.6 would infringe upon the independence of the External Auditor. In view of the fact that the External Auditor was at present responsible only to the General Conference, a different situation would arise if the Executive Board was authorized to request audit examination.

(436) Several delegates expressed concern over the additional burden that would be placed upon the governing bodies if additional examinations were requested from the External Auditor. These delegates also drew attention to the additional workload that would fall upon the Secretariat, surely involving increased budget costs. One delegate felt that if the scope of the audit were thus increased, consideration should be given to the appointment of a Board of Auditors: this was, however in any way a reflection upon the competence of the existing External Auditor or the high quality of his work. Another delegate felt there to be a fundamental deficiency in the draft resolution, in that the question of increased costs had not been considered. He wondered whether it was the intention of the sponsors that such additional costs should be met from supplementary estimates, because he

did not feel that the present level of the programme budget could provide further economies to absorb increased audit costs. Yet another delegate expressed the opinion that there may not be any additional costs during the next financial period since it was not definite that the Executive Board would request specific additional examinations from the External Auditor during that period.

(437) The speaker for the sponsors of the draft resolution said that he did not understand why objections were raised regarding additional costs, since he anticipated that specific audit investigations would improve the financial management of the Organization and thus bring about overall cost reductions.

(438) One delegate recalled that a similar draft resolution considered by the Temporary Committee of the Executive Board had not been accepted by that Committee. The question had subsequently been raised in the Executive Board but not considered by the Board. Certain members of the Board had felt that the inclusion of the words 'and the Executive Board' in Financial Regulation 12.6 might have unfortunate consequences. These concerns had led the Temporary Committee not to endorse the proposal. Two other delegates felt that the main reason why the Executive Board had not considered the proposed amendment to Financial Regulation 12.6 was because they knew that the item had been submitted for consideration by the General Conference and that only the General Conference could amend Financial Regulations, as requested.

(439) One delegate recalled that during consideration of the item in the Temporary Committee, the Legal Adviser had pointed out that under Article V of the Constitution the Executive Board had executive duties and that therefore the Board itself could come under the scrutiny of the External Auditor in the course of his audit. Consequently the Legal Adviser considered that the Executive Board could not operate on the same level as the General Conference. None the less, this delegate could very well understand the motivation of the sponsors of the draft resolution, who had explained that their concern was to have the Board authorize specific reviews and reports between two sessions of the General Conference, in execution of its responsibilities under Article V.B.5 (b) of the Constitution, which required it to take all necessary measures to ensure the effective and rational execution of the programme by the Director-General. Further pointing out that under Article V.B.5 (c) of the Constitution, the Board was required to discharge the functions of adviser to the United Nations between ordinary sessions of the General Conference; and that under Article IV.5 the United Nations Organization could call on Unesco for advice, on educational questions for instance, he submitted

that between two sessions of the General Conference it was the Executive Board that assumed this responsibility. He was therefore of the view that there was nothing against the General Conference giving authority to the Executive Board to act under its authority and request special audit reports. He therefore suggested an amendment to draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.6 as follows:

'The Executive Board, acting under the authority of the General Conference, may between two ordinary sessions of the Conference, request the External Auditor to perform certain specific examinations and to issue separate reports on the results for submission to the General Conference by the Executive Board'.

(440) In this way, he considered, the advice given by the Legal Adviser to the Temporary Committee would be respected. Another delegate supported the point of view of this speaker on the grounds that the executive functions of the Executive Board could not be fully implemented unless the Board had authority to request the External Auditor to carry out special audits in order to ensure that the programme was properly executed.

(441) Two other delegates supported the proposed amendment to the draft resolution.

(442) One delegate referred to the introductory comments of the Assistant Director-General for General Administration on the draft resolution, which suggested that the Executive Board could make observations on the biennial audit reports and could also request the General Conference to request specific studies. He requested confirmation of this understanding from the representative of the External Auditor, because if this were true it would be possible to avoid the change in the financial resolution proposed by the sponsors of the original draft resolution.

(443) One delegate agreed to support the proposed amendment to the Financial Regulations if the sponsors of the original draft resolution could agree to include the phrase 'to review at the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference the results of the amendment to the Financial Regulations'.

(444) At this point in the debate, one delegate requested that the draft resolution be referred to the Legal Committee of the General Conference for consideration. While the proposal was supported by another delegate, it was not endorsed by the Commission.

(445) The representative of the External Auditor then replied to the questions directed to him. He said that he considered the independence of the External Auditor as very important and was concerned lest the consequence of the proposed amendment to the financial regulations be to reduce that independence. He pointed out that any studies would be in addition to those which he

would decide to carry out and would have to be within the scope of Article 12 of the Financial Regulations and the Additional Terms of Reference appended thereto.

(446) So far, to his knowledge, none of the United Nations agencies, including Unesco, for which he was the External Auditor had ever requested a specific examination; and this authority had not been delegated within these organizations to a subsidiary body. The External Auditor's representative said that if he were requested to perform a specific examination, it would be in addition to the regular work on the audit of Unesco's accounts and would involve additional staff and resources. He could not make this available within the existing staff allocated to the Unesco audit and would have to request additional resources, thus leading to increased charges. He would initially try to find staff in his own office, but if this did not prove possible, he would need to employ additional qualified staff in accordance with the authority given to him under Article 12.8 of the Financial Regulations. At all events, a specific examination requested outside his normal work would involve additional costs which would have to be met by Unesco.

(447) In response to questions raised in the Commission, the representative of the External Auditor said that he could add nothing to the legal opinion expressed by the Legal Adviser until he had had the opportunity to study it in writing and consult the appropriate legal experts.

(448) In carrying out his audit, he took account of any matters that came to his notice concerning the affairs of Unesco and paid particular attention to any matters raised in the Executive Board and the General Conference, the proceedings of which were followed very closely. He would take such action on those issues raised in the Board or the General Conference as he thought appropriate within his professional judgement, and would use his discretion on whether to include his findings in the External Auditor's report. In these circumstances he would not undertake inquiries which came outside the scope of his terms of reference.

(449) Following the statement on behalf of the External Auditor, the speaker for the sponsors of draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.6 asked whether the External Auditor would look into any matter or problem raised in the Executive Board when his report on the accounts was being discussed. The speaker for the sponsors and another delegate said they could not see how the independence of the External Auditor was threatened by the proposed amendment to Financial Regulation 12.6.

(450) The Assistant Director General for General Administration intervened to draw attention to the provisions of

Financial Regulation 13. As the External Auditor had confirmed, there could be financial implications if requests for specific audit examinations were formulated by the Executive Board; it was unlikely that in the present budget circumstances the extra costs could be met from existing resources. Financial Regulation 13 stated that the Director-General could not incur expenditure unless the General Conference had made the necessary appropriations. Thus the General Conference would be required to provide additional funds for the External Auditor to carry out specific examinations requested by the Executive Board. Moreover, the independence of the External Auditor could obviously be put in question by the proposed change in the Financial Regulations, since it was very difficult to serve two masters. In all organizations of the United Nations system, it was the body that appointed the Auditor to which the Auditor reported. Furthermore, the ADG/ADM was not aware of any example of the use of Financial Regulation 12.6 in the past. As had been noted by one of the speakers, the External Auditor could respond to any questions within his competence that were raised at the Executive Board when considering the audit report.

(451) The representative of the Legal Adviser confirmed that the Legal Adviser had not expressed a favourable opinion concerning the proposed change in the Financial Regulation at the Executive Board, for the following reasons:

(i) such measures would involve fundamental changes in the various organs of the Organization;

(ii) the proposed change would alter the respective responsibilities of the three basic organs i.e. the General Conference, the Executive Board and the Secretariat;

Under Financial Regulation 12.1, the External Auditor was appointed by the General Conference. Therefore, when the Executive Board requested specific studies, his independence would be affected;

(iii) the Executive Board was not invested with powers of decision on the reports of the External Auditor. Such controls were the prerogative of the General Conference and could not be exercised by the Board without the basic relationship between the organs being disturbed.

(452) The speaker for the sponsors intervened to point out that in other organizations subsidiary organs had the right to request their External Auditors to make specific examinations and to report to them. He referred to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) of the United Nations, which could request the Board of External Auditors of the United Nations to prepare reports. He further referred to FAO, whose Finance Committee could request the External Auditor to perform certain specific examinations

and other separate reports on the results, and to ILO, whose Governing Body had the same right.

(453) In reply, the ADG/ADM indicated that the provisions regarding audit responsibilities in other organizations could easily be misinterpreted if read out of context. In particular, the ACABQ could not be equated to the Unesco Executive Board since that body was authorized by the General Assembly of the United Nations to carry out specific functions on financial and budgetary questions within the United Nations. There were no dual relationships in other United Nations organizations when dealing with the external auditors. In the light of the comments by the External Auditor, the ADG/ADM and the various delegates who had spoken, the delegate of India proposed an amendment to replace the last two paragraphs of the original draft resolution 23 C/ADM/DR.6 by the following text:

'Requests the Director-General to study the proposed amendments to the Financial Regulations in the light of comments and observations made during

the debate on this item in the Administrative Commission, and to present a report thereon to an appropriate session of the Executive Board for submission to the General Conference at its twenty-fourth session.'

(454) One delegate reiterated his opinion that the matter should be referred for consideration to the Legal Committee but withdrew his proposal to facilitate a consensus on the question. Another speaker for the sponsors then intervened to say that in view of the External Auditor's statement that he paid particular attention to matters raised in the Executive Board, the sponsors could accept the amendment proposed by the delegate of India but would ask that the Auditor's statement be clearly reproduced in the report and preferably be underlined. The amendment by the delegate of India was supported by four other speakers including the delegate who had proposed the first amendment, which was withdrawn.

(455) The Commission recommended unanimously that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 9.9 (23 C/Resolution 36.2).

ITEM 10 - STAFF QUESTIONS

ITEM 10.1 - STAFF REGULATIONS AND STAFF RULES

(456) In introducing document 23 C/50, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) referred to the terms of Staff Regulation 12.2 calling upon the Director-General to report to the General Conference on amendments made to the Staff Rules since the previous session.

(457) A delegate inquired about the rules governing official holidays, and about the Organization's policy on post classification.

(458) The ADG/ADM explained that it was United Nations practice to observe at each duty station the official holidays of the country in which it was situated. This was reflected in Staff Rule 101.4.

(459) The Director of the Bureau of Personnel then briefly explained the post classification system prevailing in the Organization, whereby posts were classified according to the level of responsibility and complexity of the functions attached to them, on the basis of a Master Standard promulgated by the International Civil Service Commission and applicable throughout the United Nations Common System. As for the reclassification of posts, the Director-General since 1980 had introduced a limit of 3 per cent of all posts that could be proposed for upgrading within each biennial programme and budget. Every staff member was entitled under Staff Rule 102.2, to submit a claim for the reclassification of post if he or

she considered that the nature of the duties or the level of responsibilities required were not compatible with the classification standards applicable. Such claims were examined by the Consultative Committee on Classification, which made recommendations to the Director-General.

(460) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference to adopt the draft resolution on item 10.1 (23 C/Resolution 39).

ITEM 10.2 - SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER BENEFITS OF STAFF: PROFESSIONAL CATEGORY AND ABOVE

(461) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM), introducing document 23 C/51, drew attention to the decision of the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session incorporating a part of the post adjustment into the base salary with effect from 1 January 1985, a decision which the Director-General had applied to the staff of Unesco in the Professional category and above under the authority conferred upon him by the General Conference at its twenty-second session. This operation had not resulted in any increase or reduction of the total overall remuneration of the staff concerned. The ADG/ADM also drew the attention of the Commission to the decision of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) increase, with effect from 1 July 1984, the financial incentives payable to staff at certain difficult Field duty stations. He then

referred to the decision of the ICSC following a resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, to freeze the post adjustment classification at New York and other duty stations, including Paris, until such time as the General Assembly considered appropriate relativities to be re-established. Finally, he referred to the General Assembly decision to apply a new scale of pensionable remuneration, with effect from 1 January 1985, which resulted in a significant reduction for staff in the higher grades of the Professional category and above. The General Assembly had not accepted the recommendations of the ICSC for transitional measures in respect of serving staff, but was about to re-examine that question at its current session. Meanwhile the Director-General, in consultation with the Executive Heads of the other Specialized Agencies, had made provision for a suspense account which would serve to finance such measures if they were finally adopted.

(462) A delegate, with whom another member of the Commission agreed, referring to paragraph 22 of document 23 C/51, said that his government considered the action taken by the Director-General in establishing a suspense account for Pension Fund contributions as contrary to the decisions taken by the United Nations General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session. They would therefore enter a reservation in respect of paragraph 3 of the draft resolution in paragraph 24 of the document.

(463) One delegate, with whom another delegate concurred, regretted the action taken by the United Nations General Assembly in respect of pensionable remuneration as well as concerning the post adjustment. He said it was unfortunate that the General Assembly had seen fit to overrule the ICSC and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board (UNJSPB), both of which made their recommendations after extensive consultations with the representatives of Executive Heads and staff representatives and also, as far as the latter body was concerned, the representatives of Member States. In the speaker's view, it would have been preferable for the General Assembly, if it felt unable to agree with a recommendation made by the Commission or by the Board, to have referred the question back to the body concerned for further study.

(464) One member wished to know the reason for the sharp reductions in pensionable remuneration which, at the upper levels, amounted to over 17 per cent.

(465) Another speaker remarked that the measures taken by the Director-General in respect of pensionable remuneration were common to several organizations in the Common System and appeared to him perfectly justified.

(466) The Chairman then informed the Commission that the representatives of the two Staff Associations had re-

quested permission to address the Commission on the item under consideration. He recalled that the General Conference had decided that the relevant articles of the Rules of Procedure could be suspended to that effect, and invited the representatives of the Staff Associations to take the floor.

(467) The representative of the Staff Association (STA) informed the Commission that some 200 appeals had been introduced by staff members against the decisions taken by the General Assembly concerning pensionable remuneration, and a considerable number of appeals had been made against the decision to freeze the post adjustment. He said that STA felt that these decisions had been taken in violation of the acquired rights of staff members and were in breach of what he called the principle of non-retroactivity, and that they infringed upon the competence of the ICSC. The purpose of the mass appeals by the staff was to prevent the United Nations General Assembly from taking further actions to the detriment of the interest of the staff.

(468) The representative of the International Staff Association of Unesco (ISAU) said that his association felt that the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly had been taken in the mistaken belief that staff in the United Nations system were overpaid and that pensions were too high. In fact, the civil servants of the comparator country, the United States, when posted abroad, received salaries, allowances and benefits well above those available to international civil servants. That, in his view, explained the difficulties faced by the organizations in the United Nations system in recruiting staff from certain countries and the compensatory payments made to nationals of such countries in the international civil service to make up for the difference in United Nations remuneration. The representative of the ISAU said that the measures taken by the Director-General with respect to pensionable remuneration in no way transgressed the decisions of the General Assembly. In taking decisions on staff salaries and allowances, acquired rights must, in his view, be respected as well as legitimate expectations of the staff.

(469) The ADG/ADM referred to the statements by two members of the Commission who had disagreed with the measures taken by the Director-General in respect of pensionable remuneration. He explained the meaning of the term 'pensionable remuneration', which was a theoretical figure used in the United Nations system to compute pension contributions and benefits. The 1984 recommendations of the ICSC and the UNJSPB represented a 'package' which all parties had accepted after full consultation, and which included, on the one hand, a significant reduction of the level of pensionable remuneration in the

higher grades and, on the other hand, the protection of acquired rights by the introduction of transitional measures in respect of serving staff. The General Assembly had chosen to accept the reductions while rejecting the transitional measures. Although decisions of the General Assembly were, of course, not binding on the Director-General, who was responsible to the General Conference, he had in fact applied the new scale decided upon by the General Assembly. The conservatory measure, adopted in consultation with his colleagues in the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, consisted in setting aside the difference between the Pension Fund contributions calculated on the former, higher, scale and that calculated on the present scale, and placing that amount in a suspense account which would be used to finance any transitional measures on which the General Assembly might still decide, with retroactive effect, at its current session on the basis of new proposals made to it by the Pension Board. If no such decision were taken, the amount in the suspense account would be refunded to the staff members concerned. The Assistant Director-General could not agree that such measures, which represented sound financial management, could be considered contrary to any rules or regulations and, in particular, to any decision of the General Assembly.

(470) In reply to the question from a delegate, the Assistant Director-General said that the pensionable remuneration of staff in the upper grades had been reduced while that of staff in the lower grades had been slightly increased, as a measure of readjustment. Inasmuch as the whole question was pending before the Administrative Tribunals, a large number of appeals having been introduced throughout the Common System, all that could be done at this time was to await the decisions of the Tribunals.

(471) While recording the reservations concerning paragraph 3 of the draft resolution expressed by the representatives of the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan, the Commission decided to recommend to the General Conference to adopt the draft resolution on item 10.2 (23 C/Resolution 40.1).

ITEM 10.3 - SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER BENEFITS OF STAFF; GENERAL SERVICE CATEGORY

(472) Introducing document 23 C/52, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) recalled that a new salary scale for staff in the General Service category serving at Headquarters had been introduced by decision of the General Conference, on the recommendation of the International Civil Service Commission, with effect from 1 January 1984. He drew the at-

tention of the Commission to the two 4 per cent adjustments which had since been applied to that scale, as well as to family and language allowances, on 1 October 1984 and on 1 September 1985, in accordance with the terms of 22 C/Resolution 36.2.

(473) A delegate expressed his agreement with the general principle underlying the establishment of General Service salaries, which were based on the best prevailing conditions of employment at each duty station. Pointing out that the next biennium would be one of austerity, he wondered whether it was indispensable to conduct a survey of best prevailing conditions in 1987, as foreseen in paragraph 10 of the document, which might result in further increases.

(474) One member of the Commission expressed the opinion that an annual salary increase of four per cent hardly seemed sufficient. Another delegate disagreed, pointing out that the general movement of salaries in the host country did not attain four per cent per year.

(475) The ADG/ADM explained the mechanism used in adjusting General Service salaries between surveys. As for the frequency of surveys, he said that this depended to some extent on the work load of the International Civil Service Commission, but that surveys normally took place once every four years. The ADG/ADM stated that a salary survey did not necessarily result in a salary increase: since the adjustments made between surveys were intended to reflect, as far as possible, the movement of outside salaries in the duty station, the purpose of the surveys was to monitor the operation and make such corrections as might appear necessary, which could be downward as well as upward corrections. He therefore did not feel that it would be desirable to change the frequency of surveys.

(476) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend to the General Conference the adoption of the draft resolution on item 10.3 (23 C/Resolution 40.2).

ITEM 10.4 - GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE STAFF AND MEDIUM-TERM OVERALL PLAN (1984-1989) FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND RENEWAL OF THE STAFF

(477) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) introduced document 23 C/53 and its Addendum, which contained the text of a decision adopted by the Executive Board at 122nd session and the report of the debate on the subject under consideration in the Board's Finance and Administrative Commission. He also drew the attention of the Commission to the information contained in document 122 EX/INF.5.

(478) The Assistant Director-General recalled resolution 38.1 adopted by the General Conference at its

twenty-second session, requesting the Director-General to submit a report on geographical distribution to the present session, taking account of the new desirable ranges approved in 1983. He said that this question was of particular importance at the present time, owing to the recent withdrawal of a Member State. The ADG/ADM recalled that Unesco had had a plan for the recruitment and renewal of staff for over ten years and had been able to obtain certain positive results. However, he emphasized that the improvement of geographical distribution could not be achieved merely on the basis of a plan, however well constructed, but required the active co-operation of all parties, the Member States as well as the Secretariat.

(479) The ADG/ADM summarized the information contained in Part II of document 23 C/53 concerning the situation of the Organization's 160 Member States as of 1 July 1985. He said that, of the 13 Member States which were still overrepresented, 3 were only one unit above the upper limit, a situation which could change rapidly. The Organization's main efforts were directed towards the 30 unrepresented and the 15 underrepresented Member States. He pointed out that the decision to modify the quotas as from 1 January 1984 had had a favourable impact on geographical distribution by increasing the number of adequately represented countries. As a result of additional efforts by the Secretariat, nearly 64 per cent of the Member States were adequately represented against 61.5 per cent on 1 January 1984. The Assistant Director-General then referred to Table I of Annex B to the document, showing the overall representation of the regional groups, and outlined the situation on 1 July 1985 as shown in that table.

(480) Turning to the question of representation of women, the ADG/ADM stated that 22 per cent of all posts subject to geographical distribution were held by women, the percentage being 25.9 per cent at Headquarters, but only 11.8 per cent away from Headquarters. He assured the Commission that efforts would continue with a view to striving towards the goal of 27 per cent by the end of 1987.

(481) with reference to Part II of the document, the Assistant Director-General explained that the objectives forecast in the plan for the recruitment and renewal of the staff for the period 1984-1989, which was prepared in July 1983, had been overtaken by events that had occurred since then, in particular the modification of minimum quotas decided by the General Conference at its twenty-second session and the situation that had arisen as a result of the withdrawal of the United States. However, for the reasons explained in the document, the Director-General considered it premature to update the plan at this time and would prefer to defer this

question at least until the second half of 1986. At the same time, the Director-General had reiterated the principles which would continue to guide the Secretariat as summed up in paragraph 28 of the document.

(482) The ADG/ADM then referred to Part IV of the document, which presented the various options that could be envisaged for dealing with the possible redistribution of quotas after the withdrawal of the United States. He pointed out that the formula used for computation of desirable ranges contained several variables, one of which was the total number of posts to be used which was at present 1,100. While it was accepted that a Member State which withdrew from the Organization was no longer entitled to a quota, the redistribution of its quota among the remaining Member States was a problem. Having outlined the various options as shown in paragraph 37 to 43 of the document, the Assistant Director-General stated the Director-General's opinion that it might be preferable to maintain the present quotas of the remaining Member States, pending more precise knowledge of the number of posts for which financing will be available. The Director-General was however prepared to recalculate the quotas, on the basis of 900 posts, if this was the wish of the General Conference.

(483) In the ensuing discussion, most speakers commended the Secretariat on the quality of the document and the usefulness of the information contained in it, as well as in the information document made available to the Commission (122 EX/INF.5).

(484) A delegate said that he appreciated the efforts by the Director-General to improve geographical distribution. He recognized the positive results already achieved but noted that much still had to be done, and assured the Commission of his government's constructive co-operation in the task at hand. In that connection, the speaker suggested that certain principles should be observed. Firstly, he thought that the external recruitment option should be maintained despite the present situation of the Organization, which would no doubt make staff reductions necessary. Secondly, all appointments of candidates from overrepresented countries, or countries that would become overrepresented as a result of such an appointment, should be stopped. Thirdly, particular attention should be given to the search for candidates from non- and underrepresented Member States. Fourthly, the quotas should be reviewed as soon as possible to take account of the withdrawal of a Member State. Finally, nationals of a Member State which had given notice of withdrawal should no longer be recruited, and when a Member State has made it known that it was reviewing the question of its continued membership, all recruitment of

nationals from that Member State should be discontinued until it had made a final decision.

(485) Another delegate called attention to the situation of her country which was the worst placed among under-represented Member States, being the furthest removed from its mid-point. She emphasized the need to consider the position of each individual Member State and not only the region to which it belonged. Similarly, the level of the posts occupied by staff members of a given nationality must be taken into consideration. The delegate urged that any measures of staff reduction should not affect nationals of her country. She noted the improvement in the status of women and encouraged the Secretariat to make further efforts in that direction, always subject to the paramount considerations of integrity, efficiency and competence provided for in Article VI of the Constitution. Concerning the question of desirable ranges, the speaker considered that it would be premature to redistribute the former quota of the Member State that withdrew.

(486) One delegate noted the positive trend shown in document 23 C/53, both as regards geographical distribution and with respect to the representation of women, and encouraged the Director-General to persevere in his efforts. Referring to the situation of African Member States, he noted that only one out of 44 was overrepresented while this group had the largest number of unrepresented countries. He regretted that no real improvement had been achieved. The speaker said that no region of the world had a monopoly on the qualities of integrity, efficiency and competence. If certain newly independent countries had lacked qualified personnel some decades ago, this was no longer the case. Efforts to improve this situation ought not, in the delegate's view, to be hampered by necessary economy measures; nor was there any contradiction between the principle of equitable geographical distribution and the requirements of integrity, efficiency and competence.

(487) The following speaker expressed the view that the present system of desirable ranges, based essentially on contributions, was neither just nor democratic. Not only did Member States in Group I have unduly high quotas; in addition, the Group as a whole was over-represented even on the basis of those quotas. In the delegate's opinion, this resulted in a double injustice. One reason why many developing countries were underrepresented was that they hesitated to allow their nationals to join the international secretariats where they would tend to remain indefinitely, thus aggravating the problem of brain drain faced by those countries. The speaker suggested that a system should be established whereby nationals of Member States would be seconded to the Organization for limited periods, employed

for what he considered a reasonable duration of not more than 5 or 6 years, thus ensuring a system of rotation which would benefit both the Organization and the Member States. In addition, recruitment of nationals of overrepresented countries should be severely curtailed, and the Organization should establish a maximum limit of overrepresentation which would trigger an absolute bar to further recruitment.

(488) Another delegate, referring to Article VI.4 of the Constitution, emphasized that the requirement of ensuring a Secretariat constituted on as wide a geographical distribution as possible was subject to the paramount consideration of securing the highest standards of integrity, efficiency and competence.

(489) One delegate referred to the representation of women in the Secretariat. He said that women were often the first to be affected by unemployment, an injustice which he earnestly hoped would be avoided by the Organization in the process of the staff reductions which appeared to be inevitable. The present figure of 23 per cent of posts subject to geographical distribution held by women was still some way from the 1987 target of 27 per cent. In addition, the situation was worse in the upper echelons of the Secretariat and the speaker asked to be informed of the percentage of posts held by women in the higher grades. He referred to a draft resolution tabled by the Nordic countries in Commission I, (23 C/DR.146) calling for 'efforts towards achieving an equal participation of women and men' and for special measures to that end including 'temporary preferential treatment'. Concerning the question of redistribution of the former quota of the Member State that withdrew the delegate agreed that this should be postponed for the time being.

(490) Several delegates regretted the underrepresentation of their respective countries despite the fact that they had proposed well-qualified candidates for various positions in the Secretariat. One of them pointed out that the number of staff members of her nationality had recently decreased further. She reiterated a previous invitation to the Director of the Bureau of Personnel to undertake a recruitment mission to her country. One speaker inquired as to whether it was possible to assess the geographical distribution statistics according to the level of the posts occupied, and whether such a system was used in any of the United Nations organizations. Another delegate regretted that the entire region in which his country was located was still practically unrepresented.

(491) One member of the Commission reiterated the view, frequently expressed by delegates and staff representatives, that the Organization should suspend all recruitment of outside candidates, except in quite exceptional

cases, so long as the process of staff reduction resulting from the withdrawal of a Member State had not been completed.

(492) Another delegate pointed out that definite progress had been made and that, as shown in Annex A, Unesco's performance compared very favourably with that of the other organizations in the United Nations system. The predictions for the coming years reflected in document 122 EX/INF.5 were also encouraging. The speaker emphasized that the requirements of geographical distribution must be envisaged within the global context of Article VI.4 of the Constitution, all the provisions of which must be constantly borne in mind. He disagreed with the suggestions by a previous speaker that staff rotation between the Secretariat and the national civil services should be instituted on a regular basis. As for the question of redistributing the quota of the Member State that withdrew, he agreed with the Director-General's prudent approach. Finally, the speaker fully supported the proposals in draft resolution 23 C/DR.146 concerning the representation of women.

(493) Another member of the Commission expressed the view that the present quota system was unfair, although it had been improved by the decisions taken at the twenty-second session of the General Conference. He said that the nationals of certain Member States had achieved practically permanent tenure in the highest positions of the Secretariat. Increased efforts should be made to recruit candidates from un- and underrepresented countries and measures should be taken to ensure that vacancy notices reached such countries in ample time. According to the speaker, at present this was often not the case. The delegate considered that any staff reductions should affect nationals of overrepresented Member States only.

(494) One delegate drew attention to the reduction in the representation of Member States in Group II. He was of the opinion that the consequences of the withdrawal of a Member State on geographical distribution should be dealt with by redistributing the former quota of that country at once. The recruitment policy of the Organization should, according to this delegate, be based on the following principles: (a) the main objective should be to bring each Member State up to its mid-point; (b) geographical distribution should be strictly adhered to, not only in the Secretariat as a whole but within each Sector, and with respect to the level of posts which should be duly taken into account; (c) the nationals of a former Member State which had withdrawn from the Organization should be the first to be affected by any staff reductions; (d) the recruitment of nationals of overrepresented Member States should be discontinued; (e) constant efforts should be made to improve the situation of Member States in Group II; (f) the

granting of indeterminate appointments should be restricted, and a system of rotation introduced between Unesco and national civil services; (g) experts should be seconded to the Organization by Member States for limited periods, so as to prevent a brain drain; (h) geographical quotas should be revised and established on realistic bases; (i) a staff recruitment plan should be developed for each Member State; and (j) staff renewal should be pursued despite the financial difficulties of the Organization.

(495) Several delegates agreed with the previous speaker and deplored the fact that the representation of Group II had diminished. They considered that the quota system as well as the recruitment plan must be revised to take account of the present situation of the Organization. The quotas attributed to each Member State should not be based exclusively on its contribution to the budget, but should take into account such factors as population and cultural diversity. One of these delegates drew attention to the fact that Group II was underrepresented not only in the staffing of the Secretariat but also in the appointment of consultants. Another referred to suggestions that had been made for the introduction of a system of rotation of staff and said that such a system would be in the interest not only of the individual Member States but of the Organization as a whole.

(496) Another delegate pointed out that the improvement of geographical distribution depended not only on the Secretariat but also on the Member States, some of which did not encourage their nationals to leave their country and join the Organization. He stressed the importance of recruitment missions, which made it possible to sort out any difficulties on the spot. The speaker suggested that a questionnaire might be devised which could be addressed to Member States in order to obtain information on their particular difficulties in supplying suitable candidatures. Finally, the delegate referred to the situation of his country which, 21 years after joining Unesco, was still unrepresented. He said that well qualified candidates were available to correct this situation.

(497) One delegate remarked that the Organization was at a turning point in its history. He agreed with those members of the Commission who considered it premature to allocate the former quota of the Member State that withdrew amongst the remaining Member States, or to update the recruitment plan. The results of the redeployment exercise were not yet known, nor was it possible as yet to determine the number of posts subject to geographical distribution which would serve as a basis for a new quota system. The speaker referred to the situation of Member States in Group III. He said that the efforts to improve

the position must be viewed as a joint enterprise between the Organization and the Member State.

(498) Another delegate drew the attention of members of the Commission to the Annex to document 23 C/53 Addendum, which reflected the very thorough discussion that had recently taken place on the subject under consideration in the Finance and Administrative Commission of the Executive Board. He said that, while it was relatively easy to apply geographical distribution quotas at the recruitment stage, it was much more difficult to do so when deciding upon promotions and separations. Turning to the subject of the representation of women, the speaker drew attention to the recent elections to the Executive Board, the results of which were very encouraging. He suggested that the decision of the Executive Board reproduced in document 23 C/53 Add. be partly incorporated into the draft resolution in paragraph 44 of document 23 C/53. This suggestion was subsequently supported by several delegates.

(499) The paramount considerations of integrity, efficiency, and technical competence provided for under the Constitution was referred to by another delegate, who added that in accordance with Article VI.4, the requirement of as wide a geographical basis as possible, important though it was, was subordinate to those paramount considerations. Referring to the statements made by several previous speakers, the delegate considered that the suggestion that there should be an ongoing turnover of staff should be qualified; he thought a degree of stability and continuity was necessary, and would be reluctant to see Unesco transformed into an institution devoted to the training of national officials.

(500) Another member of the Commission stated that the requirements of competence and integrity must be emphasized in addition to those of geographical distribution, as well as the need to give priority to women and young people and to the requirements of decentralization. He said that, in reducing the staff, care must be taken not to separate too many nationals of over-represented Member States whose experience was vital to the Organization.

(501) The Chairman, after suspending Rules 64 to 68, of the Rules of Procedure and recalling the decision of the General Conference in that regard, authorized the representatives of the two Staff Associations to address the Commission.

(502) The representative of the Staff Association (STA) said that the question under consideration was of vital interest to the staff. He pointed out that a considerable number of outside appointments had been made during 1984 and that outside recruitment had continued, according to him at a rate that was hardly any lower, during the

first half of 1985 and urged that new recruitment should be completely discontinued, subject to very exceptional cases. In the view of the representative of STA, geographical distribution would not be substantially affected by staff reductions, since a considerable number of nationals of overrepresented countries would retire or take early retirement in the near future. Finally, the speaker said that his Association supported the principle of equitable geographical distribution, but was opposed to any action deemed contrary to the Constitution.

(503) The representative of the International Staff Association of Unesco (ISAU) said that progress had been made in the geographical distribution of staff but that further efforts were necessary for certain regional groups and for the representation of women in the Secretariat. The ISAU was of the opinion that outside recruitment should be drastically reduced, but was opposed to a total stoppage which would block and isolate the Secretariat from external inputs and specific scientific and technical knowledge. Staff reductions must, if necessary, be effected in such a way as not to nullify the results achieved hitherto in the geographical distribution of the staff, nor should seniority be the only criterion. In conclusion, the speaker suggested the establishment of a consultative committee to make recommendations on staff reductions in the interests of justice and equity and with a view to safeguarding the objective of an equitable geographical distribution and the representation of women in the Secretariat.

(504) Replying to the debate, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration thanked the delegates for their helpful comments due account of which would be taken by the Secretariat. He assured the Commission that the Director-General attached the greatest importance to the improvement of geographical distribution and that he saw no conflict between that principle and the requirements of integrity, efficiency and competence. In reply to a question posed by a delegate, the ADG/ADM reported that there were at present no women at the ADG level, that one out of 17 staff members at the D-2 level was a woman, that there were 7 women as compared with 73 men at D-1, 36 women as compared with 407 men at P-5, 71 women as compared with 288 men at P-4 and 87 women as compared with 147 men at P-3. In reply to another question, he said that the United Nations Organization had a system of weighing geographical distribution figures by the level of posts, but that this system did not significantly affect the overall statistical picture. In conclusion, the ADG/ADM expressed the view that the outside recruitment option must be maintained, in particular in respect of unrepresented and underrepresented Member

States, but that recruitment had been severely restricted in respect of nationals of Member States which are overrepresented or are in danger of becoming overrepresented.

(505) The Director of the Bureau of Personnel then replied to questions posed by delegates during the debate. Referring also to certain allegations made during the debate that outside recruitment had not been significantly reduced since notice was received of the withdrawal of a Member State, he provided figures to show that this was contrary to the facts. Comparing the proportion of outside recruitment to internal transfers in the General Service category during 1983, 1984 and the first half of 1985, he showed that there had in fact been a sharp reduction in the number of outside candidates appointed. As to staff in the Professional category and above, the figures quoted in certain quarters were misleading inasmuch as they included posts at Headquarters and in Field offices. In fact, posts in operational projects away from Headquarters, and to a lesser extent in established offices away from Headquarters, could rarely be filled by the transfer of staff from Headquarters who, for personal reasons, were often reluctant to accept such transfers. Furthermore, it was sometimes necessary to resort to outside recruitment for Professional and higher category posts, either for reasons of technical specialization or in order to appoint a qualified candidate from an unrepresented Member State. Finally, some of the appointments shown in statistics as 'outside recruitments' in fact concerned persons who had worked for the Organization for several years as consultants or under supernumerary contracts and whose status had been changed to that of staff members under the Staff Regulations and Rules. For all those reasons, statistics had to be handled with care when making interpretations.

(506) The Commission decided unanimously to recommend that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 10.4 (23 C/Resolution 41).

ITEM 10.5 - UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND: REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

(507) Introducing documents 23 C/57 and Add. 1 and 2, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) stated that the Director-General was, as was customary, reporting to the General Conference on the main developments regarding the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund that had occurred since the twenty-second session of the General Conference. The information provided dealt more particularly with the two annual reports submitted by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to the thirty-eighth (1983) and thirty-ninth (1984)

sessions of the United Nations General Assembly, and the decisions taken by the General Assembly on the basis of those reports. Document 23 C/57 Add.1 also gave details about the principal recommendations adopted by the Joint Staff Pension Board at its most recent session, for consideration by the General Assembly at its current fortieth session (1985).

(508) Referring to the important question of the actuarial balance of the Joint Staff Pension Fund, the ADG/ADM reminded the Commission that in 1985 an actuarial valuation carried out on the basis of the Fund's results at 31 December 1980 had shown that the employee-employer contribution rate, then 21 per cent, was well below the level that would enable the Fund to meet its long-term liabilities. In that context, the General Assembly, at its thirty-seventh (1982), thirty-eighth (1983) and thirty-ninth (1984) sessions, had adopted in succession a whole series of measures, the main feature of which had been to reduce the cost of benefits, including that pertaining to the pension adjustment system. Those measures therefore chiefly affected present and future participants in addition to pensioners. The only notable measure affecting organizations in the Fund had been the decision taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth session (1983) to increase the contribution rate, with effect from 1 January 1984, from 21 to 21.75 per cent (14.50 per cent for member organizations and 7.25 per cent for participants).

(509) The ADG/ADM said that, following all those measures spread out over three years, the actuarial valuation carried out in 1985, on the basis of results at 31 December 1984, had shown a relative improvement in the situation, since the actuarial deficit had been reduced to 3.01 per cent of total remuneration paid to staff. In view of the considerable sacrifices made in that process by participants and beneficiaries, the Joint Staff Pension Board, at its most recent session (July-August 1985), had taken the view that the principal move towards achieving the long-term financial viability of the Fund should be to increase the contribution rate from 21.75 per cent to 24 per cent (the contribution ceilings being 16 per cent for organizations and 8 per cent for participants). That objective should be attained in three successive stages, with an increase of 0.75 per cent at each stage, to take effect on 1 January 1986, 1 January 1988 and 1 January 1990 respectively. The ADG/ADM emphasized that, if that proposal were to be agreed to by the General Assembly, which was due to discuss the matter at its current session, the additional contributions to the Fund from Unesco during the 1986-1987 biennium would amount to approximately \$890,000 (\$593,000 for

the Organization and \$297,000 for contributing staff).

(510) The Assistant Director-General then drew attention to another point with serious implications for staff members of the Organization: the decision taken by the General Assembly at its thirty-ninth session (1984), on the joint recommendation of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and the Joint Staff Pension Board, to introduce a new scale of pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional category and above with effect from 1 January 1985. The new scale was generally lower than that which had been in force up to 31 December 1984, except in the case of P-1 and P-2 staff members. At that same session, however, the General Assembly had failed to confirm another recommendation of the ICSC and the Pension Board, which had provided for interim measures, accompanying the introduction of the new scale, under which, for that category of participants already in service, the pensionable remuneration on 1 January 1985 was not to be lower than the level attained by such remuneration at 31 December 1984. Those interim measures were nevertheless in conformity with a well-established practice of the Pension Fund and member organizations and fully respected the interests and legitimate expectations of the participants concerned. The General Assembly had therefore asked the Joint Staff Pension Board to re-examine the question and make recommendations to it at its fortieth session on compensatory or interim measures which would, if necessary, become applicable retroactively to 1 January 1985.

(511) The ADG/ADM explained that, in that context, a number of organizations, including Unesco, had taken the initiative of establishing, as a safeguard, a suspense account to receive the excess contributions resulting from the application of the old and new scales, which could be used to pay any additional contributions that might be required for 1985. It was to be noted that, at its most recent session, the Joint Staff Pension Board had reiterated its preference for the interim measures already advocated, which it had once more recommended to the United Nations General Assembly at its current session.

(512) The ADG/ADM said that, in view of the foregoing, the Director-General was asking the General Conference, in the draft resolution contained in the final paragraph of document 23 C/57 Add.1, to express the hope that the United Nations General Assembly would adopt that recommendation of the Joint Staff Pension Board, which in his view afforded the best protection of the rights and legitimate interests of serving staff members.

(513) In addition, the ADG/ADM drew the Commission's attention to the question, also of considerable importance to the Organization, of the composition of

the Joint Staff Pension Board and of a possible increase in the number of its members. Since its establishment, the Board had consisted of 21 members, with no restriction on the number of alternate members. As things stood, Unesco had two seats on the Board which, by virtue of the system of rotation established for that purpose, were assigned to two of the three groups (General Conference, Director-General and participants) forming the Organization's local Pension Committee. As a result of the affiliation of new organizations, and in particular of the forthcoming affiliation of UNIDO, Unesco was liable to lose one of those two seats, as had previously been the case for ILO, another major Specialized Agency of the United Nations system.

(514) In view of its importance to the Organization, the question of an increase in the membership of the Joint Staff Pension Board had already been raised by Unesco and, at the request of the General Assembly, had been discussed at the Board's most recent session. Unesco's representatives at that session had supported a membership of 33 for the Pension Board, on which the Organization would have three seats, allocated respectively to the General Conference, the executive head and the participants. The Pension Board had felt that, before any recommendation was made, the views of the legislative bodies of member organizations should first be sought. For that reason, the Director-General was requesting the General Conference's views on the matter, being himself of the opinion that the Organization's interests would be best safeguarded by a Joint Board of 33 members, on which Unesco would have three seats allocated, according to the principle of equal representation, to the three groups composing the Staff Pension Committee. That was the attitude on the matter submitted for the Commission's consideration in the draft resolution appearing in the last paragraph of Addendum 1 to document 23 C/57.

(515) In conclusion, the Assistant Director-General noted that the problems with which the United Nations pension system had been confronted in recent years were both serious and acute; they were due in part to a shift in the general attitude of the United Nations General Assembly, and more particularly of the Fifth Committee, to staff policy matters, with particular reference to salaries, allowances and other conditions of employment in the international civil service. Bodies of the United Nations common system, including the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), had expressed their concern with regard to that matter of general import.

(516) In that connection, the ADG/ADM drew the Commission's attention to Addendum 2 to document 23 C/57, which contained, for the General Conference's

information, the text of a resolution on the subject (Resolution No. 937) approved by the Administrative Council of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) at its 40th session (Geneva, July 1985) on staff questions and entitled 'Conditions of service in the common system'.

(517) In the course of the discussions, those members of the Commission who spoke took the view that it was essential to maintain and preserve the integrity of the United Nations pension system and its fundamental characteristic as an entirely self-financing scheme with the long-term capability of meeting its obligations towards all present and future beneficiaries.

(518) With regard to the specific issue of a possible increase in the membership of the Joint Staff Pension Board, on which the opinion of the General Conference had been sought by the Director-General, in accordance with a request to that effect addressed to the legislative bodies of member organizations by the Pension Board at its most recent session, the members of the Commission unanimously supported the position of the Director-General. In their view, the Organization's interests would be best safeguarded if, in accordance with the preliminary proposal made to the Pension Board by Unesco's representatives, the Board was composed of 33 members, instead of the existing 21, with Unesco having three seats allocated respectively to the General Conference, the executive head and the participants.

(519) On a different subject, one member of the Commission expressed reservations with regard to another point included in the draft resolution appearing in paragraph 24 of Addendum 1 to document 23 C/57, namely the main recommendation made by the Joint Staff Pension Board to the effect that the United Nations General Assembly should accept the interim measures already advocated in 1984 by the International Civil Service Commission as a result of the introduction, with effect from 1 January 1985, of a new scale of pensionable remuneration for staff members in the Professional and higher categories which was on the whole lower than the previous scale. That speaker considered that, as the question was controversial, it was undesirable to prejudge the decision to be taken on the matter by the United Nations General Assembly. Other members of the Commission took the view that the interim measures recommended by the Joint Staff Pension Board represented the best means of preserving and maintaining the integrity of the pension system.

(520) The ADG/ADM welcomed the unanimity apparent within the Commission in favour of Unesco's proposal with regard to the increase in the membership of the Joint Staff Pension Board. The purpose of that proposal was to strengthen the tripartite character of the Pension

Board and, in particular, the representation of the larger Specialized Agencies, within a body of the United Nations common system responsible for the management of the Pension Fund and having an advisory role on pension matters vis à vis the United Nations General Assembly.

(521) At the end of the discussion, a consensus emerged to the effect that, while recording the reservations expressed above by one member, the Commission would recommend that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 10.5 (23 C/Resolution 42).

ITEM 10.6 - UNESCO STAFF PENSION COMMITTEE: ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER STATES FOR 1986-1987

(522) In his introduction to document 23 C/58, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) recalled that the staff pension committees of the member organizations had an important role to play in the administration of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund at the level of their respective organizations. In addition, representatives of the member organizations on the Joint Staff Pension Board and on its subsidiary organ, the Standing Committee, were appointed from the members of the staff pension committees of those organizations. Referring in this connection to agenda item 10.5, the ADG/ADM said that examination of this item had enabled the Commission to appreciate the crucial importance of the Joint Staff Pension Board in the management and administration of the Fund, and as an advisory body on pensions matters to the United Nations General Assembly.

(523) The ADG/ADM explained that, like the staff pension committees of the other member organizations, the Unesco Staff Pension Committee was composed of nine members and nine alternate members, one-third of these members and alternate members being appointed by the General Conference, one-third by the Director-General and one-third by the staff members of Unesco who were participants in the Joint Pension Fund.

(524) The ADG/ADM said that the Unesco Staff Pension Committee normally met for a half-day in Paris, at the Organization's Headquarters, five to six times a year in order to perform the tasks assigned to it by the Regulations and Rules of the Joint Pension Fund. He also drew the Commission's attention to the past practice of the General Conference, which had been to designate Member States which had a Permanent Delegation in Paris, with a view to facilitating the regular operation of the committee and meeting the need for some continuity in representation on that body, which was being required to deal with technical problems of increasing complexity.

(525) On the proposal of its Chairman, the Commission recommended that the

General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 10.6 (23 C/Resolution 43).

(526) The delegate of Australia noted that the Chairman, in introducing the item, had said that he had discussed membership of the Committee with appropriate authorities. The Australian delegate refrained from making objections when the item was discussed. As a sitting Member and having submitted to the Director-General a request to be considered for membership in 1986-1987, Australia was disappointed to find in discussion with the Chairman and Secretariat that the Chairman had not discussed the membership with Electoral Group Chairmen. Moreover Australia's candidature had not been considered when the Chairman and Secretariat were discussing the proposed membership of the Committee.

ITEM 10.7 - STATE OF THE MEDICAL BENEFITS FUND; REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

(527) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) introduced document 23 C/59 on Unesco's Medical Benefits Fund (MBF) which, with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, was one of the two basic components of the overall social security scheme for members of the Secretariat. He emphasized the importance attached by the Director-General to the MBF's financial viability and its ability to offer staff members of the Organization a scheme of benefits of the highest possible calibre. He also noted that on several occasions in the past, the General Conference itself had been particularly concerned that the MBF should have a solid, viable financial basis.

(528) After referring to the origins and main features of the Fund and in particular the scale and rates of contributions paid in equal shares by the Organization and participants, the ADG/ADM informed the Commission that the Fund's financial situation had continued to be satisfactory since the twenty-second session of the General Conference. The most recent figures available concerned the first seven months of 1985 and confirmed this trend, as the balance of receipts over expenditure was US \$712,360 and there was a total of US \$6,860,341 in the reserves, which represented approximately twenty months' reimbursements. Future developments would nevertheless have to be watched very closely, with particular attention to factors such as increases in the cost of health care, currency fluctuations, returns on investments, the increase in participants' average age and the impact of budget cuts and its repercussions on the number of persons insured by the Fund.

(529) As regards the number and composition of the persons insured by the Medical Benefits Fund, the ADG/ADM

said that the total number insured had remained relatively stable. However, the internal composition of the group covered showed a slight but continuing trend for the number of serving staff members and their dependants to decrease and a corresponding trend for the number of retired staff members and their families to increase. This change in the distribution of the group covered, composed of an increasing number of retired persons with resulting implications for expenditure, was a factor which had to be taken into consideration in the policy for the management of the Medical Benefits Fund in the future.

(530) In conclusion, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration said that the Director-General, whose report on this item called for no decision from the General Conference, wished to assure the Commission that during the 1986-1987 biennium he would continue his efforts to enable Unesco's Medical Benefits Fund to provide the Organization's staff members with adequate medical insurance coverage, taking due account of the Fund's financial capacity.

(531) All the members of the Commission who took part in the ensuing debate expressed their satisfaction at the continuing sound management of the Fund's financial resources. They endorsed the policy of stringent management pursued so far, which had enabled the Fund to achieve satisfactory results while at the same time introducing successive improvements in the benefits scheme. One member of the Commission said in this connection that as the Medical Benefits Fund was the only medical insurance scheme offered to staff members, it should give them the best insurance coverage possible. He wondered whether, in view of the reserves that had accumulated, greater improvements might not have been made to the benefits scheme within the limits of the Fund's actuarial balance.

(532) One member of the Commission expressed the opinion that the Fund should continue to cover administrative expenditure from its own budget, particularly in view of the fact that there had been a considerable increase in its reserves. He referred in this connection to the Draft Programme and Budget for 1986-1987, which provided for the transfer of certain posts to the budget of the Organization.

(533) A number of delegates noted the tendency for the average age of participants to increase, due to the increase in the number of retired persons and the stabilization of the total number of persons insured. They also wondered whether studies had been undertaken or considered which would assess the additional expenditure that this trend might involve for the Fund in the long term, and the possible impact on this situation of the staff reductions contemplated for the 1986-1987 biennium.

(534) In his answer to the questions raised, the ADG/ADM observed that the management policy of Unesco's Medical Benefits Fund was drawn up by its Board of Management, which was composed of representatives both of the Director-General and of participants. It was for the Board of Management to take the initiative in proposing improvements to the scheme, and such proposals would then be submitted for the approval of the Director-General. In drawing up its policy and formulating its proposals, the Board of Management of the Medical Benefits Fund took the advice of a consultant actuary; it was the latter who decided on the advisability of introducing new measures, bearing in mind factors which it was difficult to predict and the long-term financial capacity of the Fund.

(535) The ADG/ADM also said that the transfer of certain administrative expenditures from the Fund to the Organization's regular budget had been the subject of a recommendation by the Board of Management of the Medical Benefits Fund. The principle of the gradual, stage-by-stage transfer of such expenditure to the regular budget had been set out in a statement by the Director-General in the Approved Programme and Budget for the 1984-1985 biennium, which provided for a first partial transfer of this expenditure. This statement could be justified by reference to the practice of the other organizations of the United Nations system, which considered that this expenditure, consisting mainly of the cost of Secretariat staff wholly or partly responsible for the administration of their medical benefits schemes, formed part of their budget. Such expenditure did exist, whether for an independent scheme, as at Unesco, or for a commercial insurance scheme, as in certain other organizations, or for a combination of the two formulas. In any case, as the Director-General had announced at the last session of the Executive Board, the transfer envisaged in document 23 C/5 of part of the Fund's administrative expenses to the regular budget was one of the budgetary adjustments that, as a result of the withdrawal of one Member State from the Organization, would not, in fact, be carried out during the 1986-1987 biennium.

(536) The Assistant Director-General went on to provide some information regarding retired staff members of the Organization who were insured by the Medical Benefits Fund. All these participants, who were described as associate participants, paid contributions to the Fund. In addition, the rate of contribution for participants and associate participants aged 60 and over had been increased by 0.25 per cent to take some account of the increased health risks consequent on their age.

(537) The ADG/ADM added that the tendency for the average age of the persons insured by national and international social security schemes to increase was a contemporary social phenomenon linked to the increased life expectancy of the population in general. The implications of this for the future were continuing to be studied by the Medical Benefits Fund, as by other social security schemes, on the basis of observed trends, actuarial hypotheses and mortality figures. Studies were also being carried out to determine the impact on the situation of the Medical Benefits Fund of the staff reduction measures made necessary by present circumstances. However, there was reason to think that the number of dismissals would not be such as to have a serious effect on the MBF's financial situation.

(538) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration pointed out, finally, that there were divergencies between the medical insurance schemes of the organizations of the United Nations system; efforts should no doubt be made to harmonize them under the auspices of the International Civil Service Commission. The ADG/ADM quoted in that connection the rule of the Medical Benefits Fund which made the admission of a retired staff member conditional on a previous period of ten years participation as a serving staff member, the last five years of which had to be continuous.

(539) At the conclusion of the debate, the Commission, expressing satisfaction with the satisfactory results of the Fund's activity, took note of the Director-General's report on the financial situation of the Unesco Medical Benefits Fund (document 23 C/59).

ITEM 11 - HEADQUARTERS QUESTIONS

ITEM 11.1 - REPORT OF THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE

(540) The Commission considered the report of the Headquarters Committee introduced by Mr A. de la Guardia (Panama), Vice-Chairman of the Committee, who said that the content of the document was linked to that of the two reports submitted by the Director-General (documents 23 C/62 and 23 C/63).

The Vice-Chairman summarized the conclusions of the Headquarters Committee and introduced the two draft resolutions annexed to this report.

(541) The Chairman of the Commission and several delegates thanked the Vice-Chairman of the Headquarters Committee for his clear and comprehensive introduction. In addition, a number of delegates expressed their satisfaction to the Secretariat as regards the

clarity of the working documents. They also thanked the host State for its constant attention to matters relating to the Organization's Headquarters.

(542) In addition to the two specific questions concerning the search for a long-term solution and the mandate of the Headquarters Committee, figuring respectively under items 11.2 and 11.3 of the agenda, the Commission also considered matters relating to the functioning of Headquarters, in particular the management of the restaurant and catering services, the distribution of the office space allocated to permanent delegations and the detailed accounts relating to the improvement and extension of conference facilities and office accommodation at Headquarters.

Management of the restaurant and catering services

(543) Several delegates expressed concern over what they felt to be the undue delay in finding a satisfactory solution to the problem of the management of the restaurant and catering services, and expressed the hope that the reform of the management system would be speeded up to the extent possible.

(544) One delegate wished to know whether the solution that involved entrusting the management of those services to a specialized outside firm was still under consideration and whether it might not be more desirable to seek a solution based on improvements in the existing system, using the advisory services of an outside expert if necessary. The same delegate considered it possible for the quality of the cafeteria food to be improved without necessarily increasing the cost.

(545) Another delegate asked for specific details regarding the circumstances of the dismissal of some members of the restaurant and catering staff. Comments were also made on the quality and quantity of the food served.

(546) In reply to those questions and comments, the Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) reviewed the different stages in the process of consulting outside firms, through a call for tenders, in close consultation with other organizations of the United Nations system. Unfortunately, that process was rather time-consuming but it had the advantage of keeping the tenders competitive at each stage.

(547) With regard to the dismissal of some members of the restaurant and catering staff, the ADG/ADM said that the persons concerned had been selected in accordance with two guiding principles - the highest wages currently being paid and the prior consent of the individuals in question. That was a practice frequently followed in similar cases and had the additional merit of taking the human factors into account.

(548) With regard to the quality of the food and the size of the portions served, the ADG/ADM noted that a considerable proportion of the customers had recently expressed their opposition to any reduction in the portions. He also pointed out that the Organization's Headquarters was in an area served by a large number of high quality restaurants in constant and keen competition with Unesco's restaurant and catering services. That was the main reason for the chronic shortage of customers, which was one of the fundamental causes of the management difficulties encountered.

(549) A further deep-seated cause was that only mid-day meals were served at Unesco, and then only on working days, whereas profitability depended on the continuity throughout the day of services such as breakfast, morning coffee and tea, lunch afternoon coffee and tea, and dinner.

(550) The ADG/ADM said that in general, the major problems of Unesco's restaurant and catering services stemmed not so much from the actual management as from difficulties in making bulk purchases and providing full-time employment for the staff, so that the ratio of staff costs to overall turnover was currently too high. Even though the staff only served lunch they had to be paid for a full eight-hour day.

(551) Lastly, as regards the continuing exploration of the possibility of entrusting the restaurant and catering services to an outside firm, the ADG/ADM said that this was being done in accordance with the guidelines originally laid down by the Executive Board. The study being undertaken would have to be continued at this stage with the assistance of the working group of the Headquarters Committee. There could be no question of closing down the restaurant proper, which was still incurring heavy losses, because it would lead to a deterioration in working conditions of the staff and permanent delegations from the point of view of comfort and security.

Distribution of office space allocated to permanent delegations

(552) Several delegates expressed their satisfaction with the measures taken by the Director-General, with the assistance of the Headquarters Committee, regarding the distribution of the office space allocated to permanent delegations. One delegate, however, referred to the problem encountered by certain permanent delegations whose office space, while not very small, was not adequate to needs in view of the large number of diplomats and employees working there. They also expressed the wish that such joint action would continue in future in order to solve the problems still remaining, if possible before the end of the present year.

(553) In reply to the question put by one of the preceding speakers, the ADG/ADM explained that office space vacated as a result of the United States withdrawal from the Organization had been allocated to other permanent delegations and had also made it possible to provide a meeting and conference room for use by all permanent delegations. The date of its commissioning would be made known in an administrative circular. He also emphasized that any office space vacated in future would also be distributed in close liaison with the Headquarters Committee.

Improvement and extension of conference facilities and office accommodation at Headquarters

(554) In reply to questions by three delegates, regarding the claim submitted at the end of the work by the UNHIR (Union de coopérateurs pour habitat, industrie et rénovation) the ADG/ADM said that this claim was in no way unusual. It was, in fact, common practice among contractors for major lots always to try to obtain further payment on completion of work and, in addition, such a procedure was authorized by the provisions of the contract. In the present instance, UNHIR was claiming payment for certain items which had in fact formed part of the original overall description set out in the main contract and its codicils.

(555) In reply to another question put by one of the three preceding speakers, the ADG/ADM said that there was no connection between the claim submitted by UNHIR for improvement and extension work on the conference facilities and office accommodation at the Paris Headquarters, and the preparation of the final detailed account of the construction work, in conjunction with the Swiss authorities concerned, for the new premises of the International Bureau of Education in the Morillons administrative centre in Geneva.

ITEM 11.2 - HEADQUARTERS PREMISES - LONG-TERM SOLUTION

(556) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) introduced working document 23 C/62 and the Commission took note of the information concerning the studies, research and negotiations undertaken by the Director-General with the relevant French authorities during the 1984-1985 biennium, in pursuance of resolution 42.3 adopted by the General Conference at its twenty-second session and concerning the search for a long-term solution to the problem of Organization's Headquarters premises, using all or part of the buildings bordering the Place de Fontenoy.

(557) During the ensuing discussion on this item of the agenda, several del-

egates expressed their satisfaction with the measures taken by the Director-General to continue the study of a long-term solution that would make it possible to put an end to the dispersal of the various Headquarters buildings. One delegate expressed his approval of the constructive approach adopted.

(558) Several other delegates expressed the wish that the current studies should take account of measures relating to decentralization and staff reduction. One of them hoped that no steps to concentrate the Headquarters buildings around the Place de Fontenoy would be seriously considered until the practical results of the decentralization measures were known. Another whilst supporting the draft resolution, stressed that account should be taken of the staff and other reductions resulting from the withdrawal of a Member State.

(559) Another delegate expressed the opinion that, whatever the prospects for decentralization or staff reduction, it would still be necessary to envisage an increase in Headquarters office accommodation because at the moment, the accommodation of many permanent delegations and non-governmental organizations was still far from sufficient to enable them to carry out their duties satisfactorily.

(560) Another delegate stressed the advisability of taking account in future of the need to improve the atmosphere in the Organization's Headquarters buildings by providing, for instance, a common meeting and work room and increasing the green spaces so that the Organization's staff were not always obliged to look out on to corridors, meeting rooms and so on. He also stressed the importance of continuing not only long-term studies but also short- and medium-term projects.

(561) One delegate expressed the wish that future studies would take account of the need to allocate a special building for exhibitions, artistic events, cultural exchanges, etc., which were constantly increasing at Headquarters, while bearing in mind, of course, the financial restrictions and the effects of decentralization.

(562) Another delegate pointed out that working document 22 C/62 mentioned that the total area of the new office accommodation envisaged in the context of a long-term solution had been scaled down from 20,000 m² foreseen for 1989 to only 10,000 m² for 1992-1995, a reduction which, in his view, was insufficient.

(563) In reply to questions raised during the discussion, the ADG/ADM pointed out that the current studies did not involve considerable expenditure, since they were largely carried out with technical assistance from the specialized services of the host country.

(564) He also pointed out that the concentration of Headquarters buildings

around the Place de Fontenoy would not involve any actual construction of new buildings requiring substantial financial outlay, but would, rather, be a stage-by-stage exchange of French Government buildings bordering on the Place de Fontenoy for Unesco's Miollis/Bonvin buildings.

(565) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration also made a point of expressing his gratitude, on behalf of the Director-General, to the Government of the host State and the relevant French authorities for the generous understanding they had constantly shown concerning the problems of the Organization's Headquarters and concerning not only the search for a long-term solution but also the whole range of matters connected with the functioning of the Organization in Paris.

(566) At the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission unanimously recommended that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution on item 11.2 (23 C/Resolution 44).

ITEM 11.3 - MANDATE OF THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE

(567) The Assistant Director-General for General Administration (ADG/ADM) presented working document 23 C/63 to the Commission. He noted that the Director-General wished to have the mandate of the Headquarters Committee renewed for 1986-1987 so that he could continue, during that biennium, to receive its advice, suggestions, guidance and recommendations on all Headquarters questions.

(568) After hearing the statements of the Vice-Chairman of the Headquarters Committee and taking note of the Director-General's wish to be able to consult the Committee, the Commission expressed the view that the Headquarters Committee should continue in existence for the 1986-1987 biennium.

(569) The Commission unanimously recommended that the General Conference adopt the draft resolution, as amended in the case of the English version, on item 11.3 (23 C/Resolution 45).

III. Report of the Joint Meeting of the Programme and Administrative Commissions

ITEM 3.12 - ADOPTION OF THE APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR 1986-1987

(1) The joint meeting was held on the afternoon of 6 November 1985 under the Chairmanship of Mr Y. Kochubey (Ukrainian SSR), Chairman of the Administrative Commission, with the following five Vice-Chairmen: Mr M.J. Mohallati (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman of Commission I; Mr S. Champatong (Thailand), Chairman of Commission II; Mr M. Roche (Venezuela), Chairman of Commission III; Mr G.H. Dumont (Belgium), Chairman of Commission IV; Mr V. Kolbasine (Byelorussian SSR), Vice-Chairman of Commission V.

(2) The Deputy Director-General presented document 23 C/PRG/ADM.1 and stated that the document was designed to give an overall view of the decisions taken by the General Conference and the recommendations made by the Commissions including changes in priority of activities and the distribution of the Reserve for Draft Resolutions. The final figures in the resolution corresponded exactly to those adopted by the General Conference in the provisional budget ceiling, i.e. an appropriation of \$307,223,000, an amount of \$91,245,000 placed in Part IX and a budget ceiling of \$398,468,000.

(3) The meeting agreed to recommend that the title of Part IX be changed to Programmes, activities and services placed in reserve instead of Blocked Funds.

(4) A delegate proposed the incorporation of the number of posts for maintenance and security staff in the overall number of posts in Note 3 of the Appropriation Resolution. The Deputy Director-General stated that this suggestion would be borne in mind when document 24 C/5 was prepared.

(5) A delegate found that the action taken in respect of a draft resolution presented by his country (23 C/DR.143) was disappointing, particularly the absence of transfers between major programmes. He reserved his position on this question until the plenary meeting.

(6) The meeting discussed the question as to how activities placed in Part IX of the budget would be made operative if the necessary finances became

available. It was stated that the criteria established by the Executive Board and reproduced in paragraphs 33 and 34 of document 23 C/6 should be applied when selecting such activities. Prior approval by the Executive Board of activities selected for implementation was also proposed by one delegate, whose views were shared by another delegate. The Deputy Director-General stated that two mechanisms existed for the financing of these activities. If a donation were made for a specific activity in Part IX it would be treated in the same way as other additional appropriations - the donation would be added, with the approval of the Executive Board, to the budget of the regular programme. In the case of voluntary contributions which do not mention a specific activity the funds would be paid into the Special Account for meeting the financial situation arising from the withdrawal of a Member State from Unesco and the Director-General would, bearing in mind the criteria established by the Executive Board, select the activities to be executed. He would consult the Board in this connection.

(7) The joint meeting agreed unanimously to adopt two amendments to the Appropriation Resolution for 1986-1987, as follows:

1. Add to paragraph (h), fourth line, after '...Approved Programme', 'in particular for those which have been placed in Part IX of the budget, it being understood that the criteria established by the Executive Board in document 23 C/6, paragraphs 33 and 34, will be taken into account'.

2. New paragraph (o):

'Activities which have been placed in reserve under Part IX of the budget may be executed by the Director-General by charging the "Special Account for meeting the financial situation arising from the withdrawal of a Member State from Unesco, within the limits of the funds available in this account, in accordance with the financial regulations noted by the Executive Board at its 121st session (121 EX/Decision 8.3), it being understood that the criteria mentioned in

**Joint Meeting of the Programme
and Administrative Commissions**

paragraph (h) above will be taken into account in selecting the activities to be implemented, on which the Director-General will consult the Executive Board.

(8) The joint meeting decided unanimously to recommend that the General

Conference adopt in plenary meeting the Draft Appropriation Resolution for 1986-1987 as in Annex II to document 23 C/PRG/ADM.1 as amended (23 C/Resolution 21).

APPENDIX

JOINT MEETING OF THE PROGRAMME
AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSIONS

ADOPTION OF THE APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR 1986-1987

(1) At its thirtieth plenary meeting on 25 October 1985, the General Conference decided:

'that the provisional budget ceiling for 1986-1987 should be \$398,468,000 for Parts I-VIII of the budget, which would provide for an appropriation of \$307,223,000 after transfer of the difference to Part IX of the budget and subject to the provisions of the Appropriation Resolution for 1986-1987' (23 C/104).

The provisional budget ceiling thus adopted by the General Conference is identical to that proposed by the Director-General in document 23 C/5 Rev.2.

(2) It will be recalled that the total budget proposed in document 23 C/5 was \$363,781,000. This total included, under Part VIII of the budget (Currency Fluctuation) a negative provision of \$88,705,000 resulting from the difference between the constant dollar exchange rates of 6.45 French and 2.01 Swiss francs to one United States dollar and the operational rates of exchange in force in February 1985, i.e. 9.65 French and 2.67 Swiss francs to one United States dollar. In accordance with the terms of 120 EX/Decision 4.1, paragraph 107(d), the provision for currency fluctuation was recalculated using the operational rates of exchange prevailing in August 1985, the month preceding that in which the Executive Board made its final recommendation on the budget. The rates of exchange used for the computation were 8.75 French and 2.30 Swiss francs to one United States dollar, resulting in a negative provision of \$69,841,000 under Part VIII, and a total budget of \$382,445,000 (document 23 C/5 Rev.2). Pursuant to the same decision of the Executive Board, the provision under Part VIII of the budget was once more recomputed using the rates of exchange prevailing in October 1985, the month preceding that in which the General Conference would adopt the total budget, i.e. 8.10 French and 2.19 Swiss francs to one United States dollar. As a result of this recalculation the negative provision under Part VIII was reduced to \$54,018,000 and the total budget increased to \$398,468,000 (document 23 C/5 Rev.2). Therefore, the only adjustments which have been made to document 23 C/5 are in respect of currency fluctuation due to the decline in the value of the United States dollar vis-à-vis the French and Swiss francs.

I

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE BUDGET TO MEET THE SHORTFALL IN RESOURCES
DUE TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF A MEMBER STATE

(3) At its 121st session the Executive Board, in adopting 121 EX/Decision 4.1 (which is reproduced in document 23 C/6):

Noted (paragraph 20) 'that the withdrawal of a Member State, which took effect on 1 January 1985, will entail a shortfall in relation to the resources that would be required for the implementation of all the activities contemplated in document 23 C/5, a shortfall equivalent to 25 per cent of the total amount of assessed contributions of Member States;'

Recommended (paragraph 21) 'that in order to meet this reduction in resources, the General Conference should undertake ... adjustments which would amount to a total of 97,765,200 constant dollars;'

Proposed (paragraph 22) with respect to the Major Programmes (Part II.A of the budget), 'that the General Conference should specify a number of activities which would be placed in reserve and included with the corresponding appropriations (programme appropriations and staff costs) in a new Part of the budget (Part IX), entitled Blocked Funds, the total amount concerned being 63,919,500 constant dollars;'

(4) The Board made detailed recommendations as to which activities under Part II.A, together with the funds necessary for their financing, should be placed in reserve in Part IX of the budget, but postponed until its 122nd session any consideration of adjustments to be made to other Parts of the budget. At this latter session, the Executive Board recommended that adjustments to the value of 33,845,700 constant dollars be made to these other Parts of the budget in accordance with the reductions proposed in Annex II of document 122 EX/7 (the text of the decision and document 122 EX/7 are reproduced in document 23 C/6 Addendum).

Joint Meeting of the Programme
and Administrative Commissions

(5) The amounts which the Executive Board has recommended to be placed in reserve in Part IX are shown in column 2 of Annex I to this document. Column 5 of this Annex shows the budget for each appropriation line after these reductions have been made.

(6) The examination of the Draft Programme and Budget by the Programme Commissions of the General Conference has given rise to certain further adjustments between activities in Parts I to VI and Part IX, which are recapitulated in columns 3 and 6 of Annex I to this document. These adjustments are the following:

TRANSFER OF ACTIVITIES (i) FROM PART IX TO PARTS I TO VI AND
(ii) VICE VERSA

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
I	<u>MP VIII</u>					
	VIII.1.1	143	Collection and comparison of information and results of research on the effects of the activities of transnational corporations in Unesco's fields of competence	(10,000)		
	VIII.1.1	143	Seminar designed to create an awareness of the impact of the activities of transnational corporations in Unesco's fields of competence	(20,000)		
	VIII.3.2	143	Extension and reorientation of Unesco fellowship programmes (awards and fellowships)	30,000		
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME VIII				-	-	-

Commission	Sub-Programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
	<u>MP II</u>					
II	II.1.2	143	Support for national projects combining school-based educational activities with those relating to the productive sector, health and nutrition, the practical application of science and technology and all other activities that help to link formal schooling to life and development, especially in rural areas		40,000	
	II.3.1	190	To finance the development and dissemination of material for training adult education personnel in the use of the most up-to-date technological resources in activities and programmes conducted in that field	30,000		
		190	Dissemination of information on the development of adult education with a view to extending information activities and organizing research on the subjects recommended by the Fourth International Conference on Adult Education	15,000		
	II.4.2	190	Projects for literacy instruction and education in civics for women in rural areas	30,000		
	II.5.1	143	Technical and financial support for the preparation and large-scale production of educational materials for teaching - including teaching through the media (radio and rural press) of the technologies necessary for the development of rural areas		60,000	
TOTAL, MAJOR PROGRAMME II				75,000	100,000	-
	<u>MP IV</u>					
	IV.1.1	125	Preparation for the Fourth Conference (category II) of Ministers of Education of the Member States of the Europe Region (MINEDEUROPE IV) to be held in 1988			(200,000)

Commission	Sub-Programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
II	IV.2.1	190	Limiting the number of monographs foreseen to six and cancelling the yearly consultations of experts, their place being taken by the Council of the International Bureau of Education	(40,000)		
	IV.2.1	190	Decrease in the number of case-studies	(15,000)		
	IV.4.1	190	Cancelling the financing of equipment for external centres, given that this is not a statutory function of the IBE and that the IBE is not a funding agency	(20,000)		
TOTAL, MAJOR PROGRAMME IV				(75,000)	-	(200,000)

MP V

V.3.2	143	Technical support to Member States, at their request, from <u>ad hoc</u> mobile special teams set up by the Regional Offices, with a view to developing the content, methods and materials of technical and vocational education		50,000	
	143	Organization, under contract, of two training workshops for the in-service training of high-level personnel in technical and vocational education		50,000	
V.4.1	246	Option 2: preparatory work required for convening, in the course of 1988-1989, the Second International Conference (category II) of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport	20,500		
	246	Support through contracts and advisory services for activities aimed at extending the practice of physical education and sport in Member States to different categories of the population	(6,600)		

Commission	Sub-Programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
II	V.4.1	246	Organization in 1987 of a consultation with specialized international non-governmental organizations with a view to better co-ordination of their activities of relevance to Unesco's programmes	(13,900)		
TOTAL, MAJOR PROGRAMME V				-	100,000	(200,000)
GRAND TOTAL, COMMISSION II				-	200,000	(200,000)

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
III	<u>MP VI</u>					
	VI.1.3	143	Organization in co-operation with ICSU, of training and research activities		40,000	
			TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME VI	-	40,000	-
	<u>MP IX</u>					
	IX.2.1	143	Analysis of the evaluation machinery in certain Member States to formulate ethical and deontological guidelines on the direction and conduct of scientific research and the application of its results			(56,000)
	IX.2.1	143	Technical and computer based support for Member States wishing to develop their data base use on national scientific and technological potential and on the bibliography of science and technology policies			(29,000)
	IX.2.2	240	Pilot project on the scientific and technological development of rural areas in Latin America		56,000	
	IX.2.2	240	Development and application of a method for the break-down of complex technologies in a developing country			(20,000)
	IX.2.3	240	Regional training course in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean			(36,000)
			TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME IX	-	56,000	(141,000)
	<u>MP X</u>					
	X.1.1	143	Contribution to on-going IGCP projects in order to achieve greater participation by scientists from developing countries		45,000	
			TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME X	-	45,000	-
			GRAND TOTAL COMMISSION III	-	141,000	(141,000)

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Description	Increase (Decrease)	Transfer of priority	
					Upgrading	Downgrading
				\$	\$	\$
IV	<u>MP III</u>					
	III.2.1	143	Encouragement of Member States to become parties to the Beirut agreement and to that of Florence			(12,000)
	III.2.3	143	Five regional studies on the image of women in the media			(15,000)
	III.2.3	143	Studies on physical violence against women, and prostitution			(16,000)
	III.2.3	143	Organization under contract, of an international symposium on possible information strategies on public awareness of prostitution			(19,000)
	III.3.4	45	Contribution to the establishment or strengthening of procedures for the co-production, by developing countries of films and audio-visual programmes within the framework of TCDC		47,000	
	III.3.5	46	Contract with the International Association of Scholarly Publishers for the organization of the First Regional Seminar/Workshop in Asia and the Pacific for University Press Publishers with a view to carrying out co-publication projects		5,000	
	III.3.6	42	Financial support for the application of computers and information technology to film and television archives		10,000	
	III.3.6	143	Encouragement for the handing over of iconographical collections in European countries to previously colonized countries			(20,000)
	III.3.6	42	Implementation of a plan of action for the development and preservation of fixed images		20,000	
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME III				-	82,000	(82,000)
GRAND TOTAL ALL COMMISSIONS				-	341,000	(341,000)

II

DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESERVE FOR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

(7) On the basis of the agreement reached at the meeting of the Chairmen of the five Programme Commissions, and in accordance with the recommendations made by these Commissions, the \$1 million reserve has been distributed as follows (a recapitulation of these recommendations is shown in column 7 of Annex I):

PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION OF THE RESERVE FOR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Purpose	Amount
				\$
I	<u>MP VIII</u>			
	VIII.1.1	19	Multidisciplinary studies with a view to clarifying the difficulties encountered in translating the theoretical patterns of endogenous development into specific actions	20,000
	VIII.3.2	143	Extension of Unesco fellowship programmes (awards and fellowships)	69,500
			TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME VIII	89,500
	PART II.B CHAPTER 4	-	Training programmes, consultations and conferences of National Commissions	62,000
			GRAND TOTAL COMMISSION I	151,500
II	<u>MP IV</u>			
	IV.1.1	38	Preparation for a meeting of experts (category VI) in 1988 for the Sixth Conference of Ministers of Education and Those Responsible for Economic Planning in African Member States (MINEDAF VI)	7,100
	<u>MP V</u>			
	V.2.1	63 & 143	Support for the development of low-cost equipment and of teaching and training materials in the fields of physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics	100,000
			GRAND TOTAL COMMISSION II	107,100

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Purpose	Amount
				\$
III	<u>MP VI</u>			
	VI.1.3	11	Research activities of two regional networks in south-east Asia for the chemistry of natural products and for microbiology	60,000
	VI.2.3	33	Major regional project for the integration of technological research, training and development in south-east Asia	45,200
	TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME VI			105,200
	<u>MP X</u>			
	X.2.1	39	Establishment of an inter-regional project "Seismological and Tectonic Research of the Deep Structure of the Lithosphere in the Balkan Tyrrhenian Region"	9,500
	X.3.2	12	Major regional project on the rational use and conservation of water resources in Asia and the Pacific	143,500
	X.4.1	2	Marine pollution research and monitoring activities	11,800
	X.4.4	2	Regional training courses/workshops on the formulation and management of marine science research projects	20,300
	X.4.4	9	Training in the management of oceanographic data (WESTPAC)	10,000
X.5.1	8	Pilot project on research on and the management of coastal systems in Asia and the Pacific	10,000	
X.6.1	261	Preparation of an international conference on the use of aerospace technologies and methods in ecological research, environmental monitoring, land-use planning and resource management	11,300	
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME X			216,400	
GRAND TOTAL COMMISSION III			321,600	

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Purpose	Amount
				\$
IV	<u>MP III</u>			
	III.2.2	6	Studies on the contribution of the media in the creation of a climate of confidence, peace, disarmament and international understanding	10,000
	III.2.2	216	Production of prototypes of audio-visual aids in English, French and Spanish on the 1978 Declaration on the Media	(10,000)
	III.2.2	7	Organization of an international symposium on progress in the implementation of the 1978 Declaration on the Media	9,500
	III.3.1	15 Rev.	Contribution to the creation of a system of information and data exchange between institutions in developing countries concerned with the development and application of modern communications	30,000
	III.3.2	15 Rev.	Assistance to projects in developing countries involving research, design and development of modern communication technology including the provision of up-to-date information, prototype plans, etc.	100,000
	III.3.2	15 Rev.	Contribution to technological innovations designed to make satellite communication systems available, in co-operation with such organizations as INSHE, PALAPA, AFRICASAT, ARABSAT and CARISAT	80,000
	III.3.5	5	Organization of an international seminar on trends in and problems of translating the best works of world literature into foreign languages	10,000
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME III				229,500
	<u>MP VII</u>			
	VII.1.1	3	Development, maintenance and updating of tools for bibliographic control and data exchange	10,000
	VII.2.1	167	Publication under the pilot project on public libraries in Latin America and the Caribbean, of guidelines of library services for children	5,000
	VII.2.1	4	- Provision of technical assistance in the area of modernization of archives and the management and conservation of documents	11,900
			- Increase in funds for the above	13,100
	VII.2.1	36	Organization of a regional seminar in Asia on the management of records	20,000
TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME VII				60,000

Commission	Sub-programme	DR No.	Purpose	Amount
				\$
IV (cont.)	<u>MP XI</u>			
	XI.1.3	224	Commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the death of the Master Architect Sinan	9,000
	XI.1.3	65	International campaign for the preservation of the Old City of Damascus	9,900
	XI.1.3	285	Increase of subvention for the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)	7,700
	XI.1.4	20	Creation of a mobile museum of the Caribbean heritage	9,900
	XI.1.4	274	Increase of subvention for the International Council of Museums (ICOM)	9,900
	XI.1.5	82	Establishment of an international summer school of museology in Czechoslovakia	9,600
	XI.1.6	208	Establishment of a group of international experts to serve as a focal point on cultural heritage and the history of large urban areas	9,000
	XI.2.1	73	Financial assistance to the International Association for the Study of the Cultures of Central Asia, and organization of an international symposium on the History of Central Asian Civilization	9,000
	XI.2.1	17	Financial assistance to the International Association for the Study and publication of Slav cultures	9,500
	XI.2.1	289	Assistance towards the continuation of south-east European studies	9,900
	XI.2.3	243	Study on the reciprocal influence of Western and Turkish music	9,000
	XI.3.1	273	International seminar on the rôle of the art film in the enrichment of the individual	9,000
	XI.3.3	281	Assistance towards the activities of the International Music Council (IMC)	9,900
			TOTAL MAJOR PROGRAMME XI	121,300
			GRAND TOTAL COMMISSION IV	410,800
V	<u>MP XIII</u>			
	XIII.2.2	57	Preparation and dissemination (in collaboration with the International Commission of Jurists) of a directory of institutions in possession of information likely to facilitate the effective exercise of human rights by disadvantaged social groups	9,000
			GRAND TOTAL ALL COMMISSIONS	1,000,000

III

CALCULATION OF THE APPROPRIATION RESERVE AND CURRENCY FLUCTUATION

(8) As the estimates for Part VII, Appropriation Reserve (\$21,493,000) and Part VIII, Currency Fluctuation (\$54,018,000 negative) were calculated on the total budget, a portion of these amounts relate to the activities included under Part IX of the budget. The allocation of these Parts of the budget to Parts I to Part VI and to Part IX is as follows:

	<u>Parts I to VI</u>	<u>Part IX</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$	\$	\$
Part VII - Appropriation Reserve	16,584,000	4,909,000	21,493,000
Part VIII - Currency Fluctuation	(42,588,800)	(11,429,200)	(54,018,000)

Column 5 of the Annex, Parts I to VIII, therefore shows a total of \$307,223,000 which corresponds to the appropriation approved by the General Conference in its resolution on the provisional budget ceiling.

IV

FORM AND TEXT OF THE APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

(9) At its ninth meeting on 14 October 1985, the Administrative Commission took note of the form and text of the Draft Appropriation Resolution for 1986-1987, on the understanding that further discussion might be necessary at the joint meeting.

(10) Several important changes appear in the Draft Appropriation Resolution:

- (a) the titles of some appropriation lines have been modified to reflect changes in the structure of the Secretariat;
- (b) a new Part IX, Blocked Funds, has been introduced;
- (c) a new paragraph (b) has been inserted, dealing with the procedure to be followed if the announced intention of two Member States to withdraw from the Organization becomes effective;
- (d) a change in the text concerning the refund to Member States of any surplus accruing under Part VIII, Currency Fluctuation, in accordance with 121 EX/Decision 8.5.

(11) In order to facilitate the calculation of the annual contributions of Member States, it is proposed that the estimate of Miscellaneous Income be increased from \$33,481,000, as shown in document 23 C/5, to \$33,488,000 - this increase of \$7,000 being shown under 'Other receipts'. The total assessment level is therefore \$364,980,000 which, after reduction of the amount which would have been paid by the United States of America had it remained a member, gives a total assessment on Member States of \$273,735,000, as follows:

	\$
Total budget ceiling.....	398,468,000
<u>Less: Miscellaneous Income.....</u>	<u>(33,488,000)</u>
	364,980,000
<u>Less: 25%.....</u>	<u>(91,245,000)</u>
	273,735,000
Assessment on Member States	273,735,000

(12) Note 3 to the Appropriation Resolution has been changed to show the tentative classification of posts in Parts I to V and Part IX of the budget and also to summarize maintenance and security posts.

V

DRAFT APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION

(13) All the adjustments and revisions mentioned above have been incorporated in the Draft Appropriation Resolution. This revised Draft is submitted to the Joint Meeting of the Programme and Administrative Commissions for examination and transmission, with the recommendations of the Joint Meeting, to the plenary meeting for final adoption of the budget, scheduled for 9 November 1985.

ANNEX I

Budget Line	23 C/5 Rev. 2 (1)	PART IX - BLOCKED FUNDS			PARTS I-VIII - APPROPRIATION			TOTAL (8)
		Initial (23 C/6 & Add.) (2)	Adjustments by Commissions (3)	Total (4)	Initial (5)	Adjustments by Commissions (6)	Distribution of DR Reserve (7)	
PART I	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
General Conference	5,497,000	-	-	-	5,497,000	-	-	5,497,000
Executive Board	6,197,000	-	-	-	6,197,000	-	-	6,197,000
Directorate	1,019,800	-	-	-	1,019,800	-	-	1,019,800
Services of the Directorate	13,812,900	730,700	-	730,700	13,082,200	-	-	13,082,200
Participation in UN machinery	967,500	-	-	-	967,500	-	-	967,500
Total Part I	27,494,200	730,700	-	730,700	26,763,500	-	-	26,763,500
PART II.A								
MP I	2,387,000	507,000	-	507,000	1,880,000	-	-	1,880,000
MP II	33,817,100	7,843,600	(100,000)	7,743,600	25,973,500	175,000	-	26,148,500
MP III	17,475,200	4,316,500	-	4,316,500	13,158,700	-	229,500	13,388,200
MP IV	38,689,400	9,096,400	200,000	9,296,400	29,593,000	(275,000)	7,100	29,325,100
MP V	17,885,700	4,551,400	(100,000)	4,451,400	13,334,300	100,000	100,000	13,534,300
MP VI	31,609,800	8,844,600	(40,000)	8,804,600	22,765,200	40,000	105,200	22,910,400
MP VII	13,560,100	3,289,500	-	3,289,500	10,270,600	-	60,000	10,330,600
MP VIII	19,140,800	4,993,500	-	4,993,500	14,147,300	-	89,500	14,236,800
MP IX	8,068,500	2,415,200	85,000	2,500,200	5,653,300	(85,000)	-	5,568,300
MP X	34,074,300	7,865,200	(45,000)	7,820,200	26,209,100	45,000	216,400	26,470,500
MP XI	28,128,500	8,568,000	-	8,568,000	19,560,500	-	121,300	19,681,800
MP XII	2,565,500	557,600	-	557,600	2,007,900	-	-	2,007,900
MP XIII	5,969,500	1,071,000	-	1,071,000	4,898,500	-	9,000	4,907,500
MP XIV	423,500	-	-	-	423,500	-	-	423,500
Total Part II.A	253,794,900	63,919,500	-	63,919,500	189,875,400	-	938,000	190,813,400
PART II.B								
Copyright	2,140,600	539,200	-	539,200	1,601,400	-	-	1,601,400
Statistics	5,197,800	775,000	-	775,000	4,422,800	-	-	4,422,800
Courier and Periodicals	5,857,900	1,506,100	-	1,506,100	4,351,800	-	-	4,351,800
Ext. Relations & Public Inf.	24,780,100	3,631,000	-	3,631,000	21,149,100	-	62,000	21,211,100
Participation Programme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Part II.B	37,976,400	6,451,300	-	6,451,300	31,525,100	-	62,000	31,587,100
Total Part II	291,771,300	70,370,800	-	70,370,800	221,400,500	-	1,000,000	222,400,500

Budget Line	23 C/5 Rev. 2 (1)	PART IX - BLOCKED FUNDS			PARTS I-VIII - APPROPRIATION			TOTAL (8)
		Initial (23 C/6 & Add.) (2)	Adjustments by Commissions (3)	Total (4)	Initial (5)	Adjustments by Commissions (6)	Distribution of DR Reserve (7)	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>PART III</u>	37,955,900	7,185,500	-	7,185,500	30,770,400	-	-	30,770,400
<u>PART IV</u>	32,453,500	6,715,900	-	6,715,900	25,737,600	-	-	25,737,600
<u>PART V</u>	35,425,100	8,924,300	-	8,924,300	26,500,800	-	-	26,500,800
<u>PART VI</u>	4,893,000	3,838,000	-	3,838,000	1,055,000	-	-	1,055,000
Reserve for DRs	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	-	(1,000,000)	-
Total Parts I-VI	430,993,000	97,765,200	-	97,765,200	333,227,800	-	-	333,227,800
<u>PART VII</u>	21,493,000	4,909,000	-	4,909,000	16,584,000	-	-	16,584,000
<u>PART VIII</u>	(54,018,000)	(11,429,200)	-	(11,429,200)	(42,588,800)	-	-	(42,588,800)
TOTAL I-VIII APPROPRIATION					307,223,000	-	-	307,223,000
<u>PART IX</u>		91,245,000	-	91,245,000				91,245,000
BUDGET CEILING	398,468,000							398,468,000

IV. Reports of the Legal Committee

A. FIRST REPORT

(1) The Legal Committee held its first meeting on Wednesday, 9 October 1985, at 11.30 a.m. It elected as its Chairman H.E. Mr Azzedine Guellouz (Tunisia).

(2) At its second meeting, held on Thursday, 10 October 1985, the Legal Committee elected Mr A. Leibbrandt (Netherlands) as Vice-Chairman and Mr J.A. Lanus (Argentina) as Rapporteur.

Item 5.1 of the agenda - Study by the Executive Board on the proposal by Australia and New Zealand to amend Article V, paragraph 1, of the Constitution

Introduction of item 5.1 and related documents
(23 C/24 and 23 C/24 Add.)

(3) The Chairman, followed by the representative of the Director-General, introduced item 5.1 of the agenda and the related documents (23 C/24 and 23 C/24 Add.). The General Conference had, at its twenty-second session, in resolution 27, requested the Executive Board to study a proposal from Australia and New Zealand which involved the amendment of Article V, paragraph 1, of the Constitution. Its purpose was to increase the number of members of the Executive Board from 51 to 52, the extra seat thus created would have been attributed to electoral group IV. Australia and New Zealand also wished to be transferred from electoral group I to electoral group IV. In its study, the Executive Board had analysed the current situation, particularly in the light of Recommendation B.4 of the Temporary Committee, which the Executive Board had endorsed and which recommended that 'the number of members of the Executive Board should not be increased for the next ten years'. In this context, the Permanent Delegates of Australia and New Zealand had informed the Executive Board at its 121st session that they were prepared to withdraw their proposed amendment to the Constitution. The Executive Board had then adopted 121 EX/Decision 5.6.1, in which it recommended to the General Conference that it:

(a) modify the allocation of seats for the purposes of election to the Executive Board so as to reduce the number of seats in electoral group I from ten to nine and to increase the number of seats in electoral group IV from eight to nine;

(b) comply with the requests of Australia and New Zealand that these two States shall belong to electoral group IV instead of electoral group I;

(c) decide to implement the decision set out under paragraphs (a) and (b) above at its twenty-fourth session.

General discussion

(4) The delegate of Australia told the Committee that he considered the Executive Board's recommendation to be clearer, simpler and fairer than the proposal submitted to the twenty-second session of the General Conference. At that time, however, no one had any idea that certain Member States of group I would be withdrawing from Unesco. Conversely, several States in the South Pacific, already members of the United Nations, were soon to join group IV in Unesco. Furthermore, in all the United Nations Specialized Agencies, Australia and New Zealand belonged to the group that corresponded to their geographical location. Even in Unesco they had been placed in Asia and the Pacific in 1974 when it came to regional activities. At the time, they had been left in electoral group I because they were the only independent States in the South Pacific. Since then several other States of that region had become members of Unesco and had been placed in electoral group IV. As the Temporary Committee had recently recommended that the number of seats on the Executive Board should remain unchanged for ten years, Australia and New Zealand had withdrawn their proposed amendment to the Constitution. They were grateful to the Executive Board for its recommendation to the General Conference

that one seat be transferred from group I to group IV and that Australia and New Zealand should also be transferred from group I to group IV, it being understood that, in order to obtain a consensus, it had been agreed not to apply those measures until the twenty-fourth session of the General Conference. This new distribution of seats among electoral groups was much fairer and should serve for several years, even if it was to be expected that more States from the South Pacific and Africa would become members of Unesco in the near future. In conclusion, the delegate of Australia hoped that the Legal Committee would endorse the recommendation of the Executive Board.

(5) One member of the Committee said that the reasons given by Australia and New Zealand to justify their transfer seemed to him perfectly acceptable. Since the proposal to increase the number of seats on the Executive Board had been withdrawn by its sponsors and the transfer of both countries could be carried without any change in the Constitution, the attention of the General Conference should be drawn to the fact that it could decide by a simple majority. The Legal Committee should, however, recommend to the General Conference that it consider a redistribution of seats, in view of the fact that, given the number of members in electoral group III, that group was the least well represented on the Executive Board. In support of this request, which was seconded by another member of the Committee, he cited the representation rate of group III on the Executive Board in 1980 and in 1983 and showed that not only was it the lowest of any group, but that it had deteriorated considerably.

(6) One member expressed his appreciation of the desire expressed by Australia and New Zealand to join their own region, and warmly supported their request. He congratulated group I on having made a solution possible, and said that he supported the recommendation of the Executive Board in that connection.

(7) One member said that his country had had doubts about the proposal submitted by Australia and New Zealand at the twenty-second session of the General Conference. These doubts were due to the fact that the proposal submitted by the two countries raised serious difficulties and could lead to the destabilization and disruption of the delicate balance in the distribution of seats on the Executive Board. However, since the idea of increasing the number of seats on the Executive Board had been withdrawn and a consensus had been reached, the proposal could be supported. On the other hand, the new distribution of seats might give rise to political problems in the future. If, for instance, the membership of group I continued to decline and that of other groups to increase, a new imbalance in the distribution of seats would emerge. It had to be borne in mind that the measures set out in the Executive Board's recommendation were not due to be applied for two years, and that in two

years' time the situation might be quite different and the measures that had been proposed might prove obsolete. It also had to be borne in mind that it would be wrong to adopt a purely arithmetical approach to the question of the distribution of seats on the Executive Board, for it was a political question. Each group should have the appropriate representation on the Executive Board.

(8) The Chairman said that the Committee knew that it should not overstep its terms of reference, and that if an agenda item submitted to it for consideration proved to present no legal problems, the Committee would not fail to make this clear in its report. He further expressed the view that the transfer of countries from one group to another was a matter not only for the groups concerned but also for the General Conference itself.

(9) One member of the Committee agreed that the Legal Committee should confine itself to the consideration of whatever legal issues might arise. With regard to the Executive Board's recommendation, contained in paragraph 3 of 121 EX/Decision 5.6.1, he considered that for reasons of logic, subparagraph (b) of the recommendation should precede subparagraph (a). In conclusion, he expressed the view that the Legal Committee should recommend that the General Conference endorse the recommendation of the Executive Board.

(10) One member of the Committee said he accepted the case put forward by Australia and New Zealand, and supported the view that the Legal Committee should recommend that the General Conference adopt the recommendations of the Executive Board. He also strongly endorsed the statement by another delegation regarding the unbalanced and disadvantageous situation of group III in terms of the present distribution of seats on the Executive Board. That situation would have to be redressed, and he supported the proposal that the Committee should recommend to the General Conference that it undertake a study of the matter with a view to finding a satisfactory solution for group III.

(11) The representative of the Director-General recalled that the role of the Legal Committee was to study the legal implications of questions submitted to it for consideration and to report them to the General Conference. If there were no legal implications, then the Committee was required to place the fact on record. It also had to submit to the General Conference a draft resolution in which, without stating any view on the merits of the case, it would set out the decisions that the General Conference might be obliged to take if it decided to follow the recommendation of the Executive Board. The Legal Committee should also, in its report, state the majority required for the adoption by the General Conference of a draft resolution on the subject.

(12) One member of the Committee wondered whether the Legal Committee

could report to the General Conference on its discussions regarding the matter under consideration, since it had no legal implications. That member considered that the Committee should confine itself to stating in its report that there was no legal objection to the recommendation of the Executive Board, without stating what majority within the Committee had or had not supported that recommendation.

(13) One member of the Committee recalled that the Legal Committee had always given an account of its deliberations in its reports to the General Conference, but that nothing prevented it from merely noting that the question before it did not raise any legal problems. Nor was there anything to prevent it from submitting a draft resolution to the General Conference.

(14) The Rapporteur observed that the Committee was divided, some of its members considering that the report should reflect the debate which had taken place within the Committee and recommend that the General Conference adopt a draft resolution, others taking the view that the report should merely note the fact that there were no legal implications and consequently refrain from recommending that the General Conference adopt a draft resolution. He argued that for practical reasons the Committee should, in its report to the General Conference: (i) note that the question submitted to it for consideration did not have any

legal implications; (ii) refer the question back to the General Conference with the observation that the Conference was required to decide on the matter by a simple majority; (iii) submit a draft resolution to the General Conference in case it decided to follow up the recommendation of the Executive Board.

(15) The Chairman then drew the attention of the Committee to the precedent of the draft resolution submitted by the Legal Committee of the General Conference at its twenty-second session, wherein the Committee had made clear that it was submitting the draft without expressing an opinion on the substance of the proposal before it.

Draft resolution of the General Conference

(16) The Legal Committee, having ascertained that there was no legal obstacle to the adoption by the General Conference of the Executive Board's recommendations, refrained from expressing an opinion as to the substance of the proposal and decided to submit to the General Conference the text of a draft resolution which adequately reflected the recommendations of the Executive Board. A simple majority would suffice for the adoption of this draft.*

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 30).

B. SECOND REPORT

Item 2.3 of the agenda - Report by the Executive Board on its own activities in 1984-1985, including the reform process (document 23 C/93, 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1, Part III, paras. 2(a) and (b))

(1) The General Conference, on the recommendation of its General Committee, and in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 1(c) of its Rules of Procedure, decided to refer to the Legal Committee for preliminary examination the legal aspects of the matters listed in section III, paragraphs 2(a) and (b) of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 contained in document 23 C/93.

(2) In view of the terms of reference assigned to the Legal Committee by the General Conference (23 C/LEG.3), the Chairman of the Committee emphasized that the Committee's examination should be confined to the strictly legal aspects of the matters referred to it.

A. Examination and definition of the reciprocal rights and obligations of the Organization and a Member State which withdraws and which might, on request, have observer status*

Legal aspects

(3) At the Chairman's request, the representative of the Director-General recalled all the relevant antecedents and

all the legal provisions relating to the matters on which the Legal Committee was being consulted.

(4) The Committee then went on to consider section III, paragraph 2(a) of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1, in which it was requested to 'examine and define the reciprocal rights and obligations of the Organization and a Member State which withdraws and which might, on request, have observer status'.

(5) After an exchange of views in which all members of the Committee took part, the Committee reached the following conclusions:

I. (a) Under the provisions of Article II of the Constitution, Unesco comprises only Member States (paras. 1 and 2) and Associate Members (para. 3).

(b) There are no provisions in either the Constitution or the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference from which it might be deduced that there is a specific observer status.

* Having taken cognizance of the report of the Legal Committee on this question, the General Conference adopted part I of 23 C/Resolution 0.9.

(c) The fact that there are no specific provisions concerning observer status has not prevented Unesco from accepting the establishment of permanent observer missions to the Organization in accordance with generally agreed international practice.

II. The possibility of providing certain facilities to the accredited representatives of States which are not members of the Organization was raised as long ago as the second session of the Executive Board (April 1947). In 1951, the Executive Board approved the principle of the possible admission of permanent observers from non-Member States in 25 EX/Decision 12.8, and in 26 EX/Decision 8.3.2 it authorized the Director-General to grant facilities to observers of non-Member States which were as follows:

(a) observers are issued with a laissez-passer authorizing them to attend all public meetings of the various organs of Unesco, subject to the proviso that observers may neither sit at the meeting table nor make statements except at the express invitation of the competent authority, and in accordance with the regulations in force;

(b) observers receive all documents supplied to permanent delegations;

(c) observers have access to all the various working rooms, restaurants and bars arranged for the use of permanent delegations.

The report on this matter (document 26 EX/22) stated that the extension of such facilities '... may, in some cases, seem advisable from the diplomatic point of view, and may facilitate the progressive participation in Unesco activities of States which, for one reason or another, have not been able yet to accept the Constitution. The fact that a State which has not yet joined Unesco appoints a delegate to the Organization is a sign of interest. It would therefore be advisable to give such representatives and delegates the broadest possible facilities in the accomplishment of their mission'.

It should be emphasized that, whenever a communication concerning the establishment of a permanent observer mission has been received by the Director-General, the Executive Board has been informed of it and has decided on the matter. This procedure is in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on the Representation of States in Their Relations with International Organizations of a Universal Character (1975), which is not in force (having to date attracted only 23 accessions or notifications out of the requisite 25) but is nevertheless considered by several Member States to represent an important stage in the work of codifying and gradually developing international law in inter-State bilateral relations. Article 5.2 of that Convention provides that non-Member States may, if the rules of the Organization so allow, establish permanent observer missions. According to the Convention, the expression 'rules of the Organization means, in particular, the

constituent instruments, relevant decisions and resolutions, and established practices of the Organization' (para. 34 of Article 1).

III. The privileges and immunities which may be enjoyed by the representatives and other members of a State's permanent observer mission cannot be determined by decisions adopted by the Organization but fall within the exclusive competence of the host State. In accordance with the Vienna Convention, Unesco could, should the need arise, assist the sending State in its application to the host State for the privileges and immunities accorded by the latter.

(6) In so far as the question put in section III, paragraph 2(a) (document 23 C/93), is directed at the definition of the reciprocal rights and obligations of the Organization and a Member State which withdraws and which might on request have observer status, it should be noted that, until recently, there has in international practice been no case in which a State withdrawing from an organization has asked the latter to grant it the necessary facilities for an observer mission. The reciprocal rights and obligations of the Organization and a Member State withdrawing from it have not been elaborated in the practice and the rules of international law.

(7) The Legal Committee considered that in the light of the practices described above, it was for the General Conference to define a framework and general principles. The study of each communication concerning the establishment of a permanent observer mission, whether from a withdrawing State or from a State not as yet a member of the Organization, was the responsibility of the Executive Board on referral of the matter to it by the Director-General. In each particular case, and to enable the Executive Board to take a reasoned decision, reciprocal rights and obligations should be negotiated between the State withdrawing from the Organization and the Executive Board, which might call upon the Director-General to conduct talks to that end.

(8) The Legal Committee submits the following principles, to serve as a framework for the talks and negotiations referred to in paragraph (7) above, for approval by the General Conference:

(a) the study should be based on two important considerations:

(i) the need to protect the interests of the Organization and to ensure that it can work normally, and

(ii) the desirability of endeavouring as far as possible to preserve the universal character of the Organization;

(b) consideration of the advisability of granting facilities to a permanent observer mission should be based on the fact of a State's endeavouring to promote co-operation with the Organization;

(c) the State concerned should bear the costs arising from the facilities granted;

(d) where a State withdraws from the Organization and asks to establish a

permanent observer mission, that State should discharge its financial obligations in respect of the Organization as provided in the latter's Constitution.

(9) Some members of the Committee did not agree with the views expressed in paragraphs (7) and (8). They considered that there should be no discrimination between a State which withdraws and a State which has not been a member of the Organization. As a matter of law, the principle of non-discrimination was enshrined in Article 83 of the 1985 Vienna Convention; as a matter of policy, it was important for the Organization to maintain contact with States outside the Organization. They considered that a State had a right to notify the Organization that it would establish an observer mission and that the Executive Board had the right to consider the granting of facilities. Further, the State concerned, like other observer missions, should negotiate a contribution towards the payment of facilities granted. Beyond that, there were no established rights and obligations.

B. Study of the desirability of requesting the International Court of Justice to deliver an advisory opinion on the financial obligations of a Member State which withdraws from the Organization in the course of a budgetary period

Legal aspects

I. Discussion

(10) At its seventh and eighth meetings, chaired initially by Mr A. Leibbrandt (Netherlands) the Vice-Chairman and subsequently by the Chairman, H.E. Mr Guellouz (Tunisia), the Legal Committee, in conformity with the decisions of the General Conference, examined the legal aspects of the question indicated in paragraph 2(b) of part III of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 of the Executive Board concerning the desirability of requesting the International Court of Justice to deliver an advisory opinion on the financial obligations of a Member State which withdraws from the Organization in the course of a budgetary period (see document 23 C/93).

(11) In her introductory remarks, the Legal Adviser explained that Unesco had the legal status, or was entitled ratione personae, to ask the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion on legal questions arising within the scope of its activities. In this connection, she referred in particular to Article XIV.2 of the Constitution of Unesco and to Article 96.2 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as to Article X.2 of the 1946 Agreement between the United Nations and Unesco which inter alia states that the General Assembly authorizes Unesco 'to request advisory opinions of the International Court of Justice on legal questions arising within the scope of its activities'. It was

agreed by members of the Committee that the Organization had the right and the requisite legal status to ask the Court for an advisory opinion.

(12) The Legal Adviser further declared that the Legal Committee was required to advise the General Conference if the issue indicated in paragraph 2(b) of part III of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 fell within the category of matters in respect of which Unesco had the authorization as well as the right to request the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion to the extent that the issue arising in this particular case concerned a question of the interpretation of Article II.6 of the Constitution of Unesco. In this respect, she made reference to pertinent constitutional and statutory provisions as well as to some of the Court's own previous judicial pronouncements regarding what it perceived as its duty with respect to a request for advisory opinion regarding the interpretation of specific provisions of constitutive instruments of the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies.

(13) A member of the Committee stated that, in his opinion, the International Court of Justice might refuse to give an opinion on a question relating to the issue indicated in paragraph 2(b) of part III of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 on the grounds that the question was politically motivated or related to a real dispute between Unesco and a former Member State. This contention was disputed by several members of the Committee who stated that the point at issue was the interpretation of Article II.6 of the Organization's Constitution and that accordingly the Court would normally give an advisory opinion on it if it were requested to do so. These members added that having regard to past practice of the Court, it would not decline a request for an advisory opinion except for compelling reasons. Some members of the Committee remarked that the State which would be more directly concerned with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice did not recognize the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court, adding that this could raise technical legal problems because in reality there was a dispute. They added that in any case there was high probability that the State concerned was not likely to act on any advisory opinion that was unfavourable to it. It was also stated by a member of the Committee that since the State concerned had already left Unesco, it was no longer bound by the Constitution of the Organization and as such an advisory opinion regarding the interpretation of a provision of it would not have much legal significance vis-à-vis that State. Some members asked that far from solving the problems of the Organization, an advisory opinion might aggravate them. They said that in their opinion there was only a limited chance that the Court would say that the withdrawing State was liable to pay for the second year of the budgetary period. Moreover, the procedure would

take considerable time and would cost the Organization money. Another member of the Committee declared that in his view there was no need for politicization because all that Unesco would be doing was to ask the Court for an interpretation of a specific provision of its Constitution so as to clarify the true situation of the financial obligations of a Member State that has withdrawn from the Organization. He added that the fact that an advisory opinion would not be binding was not sufficient reason for Unesco to refrain from asking for one. He pointed out in this connection that as a matter of fact this would not be the first time that Unesco would be asking the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion.

(14) With regard to the procedure that would be applicable, it was explained that in accordance with the applicable legal and constitutional provisions:

(i) the exact wording of the question to be submitted for an advisory opinion would have to be determined by the organ of Unesco requesting the advisory opinion;

(ii) it is the Court or, should it not be sitting, its President which would have to decide if all Member States of the Organization as well as interested non-Member States would have the opportunity to submit arguments to the Court if they so wished;

(iii) according to the Rules of the Court, if Unesco were to inform the Court that its request necessitates an urgent answer, or the Court finds that an early answer would be desirable, all necessary steps to accelerate the procedure would be taken by the Court.

(15) With regard to procedural costs, the Legal Adviser informed the Committee that seizing the International Court of Justice with a request for an advisory opinion would not necessitate external costs, in particular costs payable by Unesco either to the Court itself or to the United Nations. With regard to costs internal to the Organization, she stated that the Organization would rely primarily on the expertise available to it within the Secretariat, it being understood that as appropriate this could be supplemented by temporary help from outside the Secretariat, the cost of which would depend on its nature and extent. It was recalled, however, in this connection that when Unesco had sought the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice in 1956, it had in fact relied exclusively on the personnel resources existing within the Secretariat. A member of the Committee nevertheless stated and reiterated that in his view it would be indispensable for the Organization to seek external legal expertise in the event that the General Conference decided that an advisory opinion should be sought. Two delegates considered that it would be expedient to point out to the General Conference that it was always advisable to employ an experienced international lawyer of repute for the preparation, drafting and handling of a request

to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion, and that the expenses that would be incurred should be taken into consideration when a decision was made.

(16) On the question of the effect of an advisory opinion, members of the Committee agreed that such an opinion would not be binding on any Member State, present or past. This view was shared by members of the Committee. However, while some members expressed the view that such a non-binding opinion would, even if favourable to Unesco, not be of much use to the Organization, others stated that a favourable advisory opinion from the Court would have an important moral and persuasive authority that could not but be helpful to the Organization. In answer to a question, the Legal Adviser informed the Committee that, in practice, the average length of time required to obtain an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice was approximately seven months from the date of the request. A member of the Committee declared that the request for an advisory opinion would in any event have to be in the form of a resolution of the General Conference or a decision of the Executive Board, as the case may be.

(17) The Chairman reminded members of the Committee that in pursuance of Rule 33.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, it would be for the Committee, if and when necessary, to recommend to the General Conference the exact question to be referred to the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion. He stated further that, for the time being, it was the Committee's technical duty to provide the General Conference with the legal elements on the basis of which the Conference could decide the question of whether or not it was desirable for the Organization to ask for the interpretation of Article II.6 of its Constitution. In this connection, he emphasized that this was a legal question that Unesco could properly submit to the Court.

(18) One member of the Committee stated that, in his opinion, a request for an advisory opinion could place the Organization in an embarrassing situation. Another member of the Committee declared that, in his view, the prospects for Unesco obtaining a favourable advisory opinion were not good. He added that, in his opinion, the practical result of a favourable reply would be negligible because the State most directly concerned would very likely spurn the opinion. This member declared that the very fact of asking the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion could be counter-productive. He added that, even if there were no financial costs to the Organization, the loss in man-hours of work by all concerned was likely to be high. The member of the Committee concluded by saying that it was part of the Committee's work to advise the General Conference not only on the prospects of a favourable advisory opinion but also on the practical conse-

quences of such a favourable opinion. He stated that in any case, if it were considered that Article II.6 of the Constitution was considered to be lacking in clarity, the best solution would be for the General Conference to amend it. Another member of the Committee stated that, in his view, it would be better for Unesco to negotiate with the State concerned than to request an advisory opinion. Another member declared in this connection that negotiations and a request for an advisory opinion were not mutually exclusive and that the Organization should therefore pursue the two at the same time.

II. Conclusions*

(19) Following an exchange of views and after having been informed of the precedents and legal norms applicable in this case, the Legal Committee agreed to draw the attention of the General Conference to the following points:

(i) The Organization may request the International Court of Justice to give an advisory opinion. This procedure is in fact available to it under the provisions of Article 96 of the Charter of the United Nations and Article 65 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice and also Article XIV of the Constitution of Unesco and Article X of the Agreement between the United Nations and Unesco.

(ii) In accordance with the regulations in force concerning the procedure for obtaining an advisory opinion, the

request for such an opinion must be expressed in precise terms and relate to interpretation of Article II.6 of the Constitution in the case in question.

(iii) It is for the General Conference to decide on the desirability and appropriateness of asking the International Court of Justice to give such an advisory opinion; in the case of an affirmative decision, the General Conference must define in precise terms the subject of the question to be laid before the Court, and proceed to formulate it. Nevertheless, the General Conference may request the Executive Board to undertake that formulation.

(iv) Lastly the Legal Committee stated that in accordance with the provisions in force, Unesco would not be required to make any payment to the International Court of Justice. It also recalled that, in practice, the average length of time required to obtain an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice was approximately seven months from the date of the request.

(20) The Legal Committee recalls that the decision by the General Conference to request, either directly or through the Executive Board, the International Court of Justice for an advisory opinion concerning the issue indicated in paragraph 2(b) of part III of 122 EX/Decision 5.1.1 of the Executive Board requires only a simple majority.

* Having taken note of these conclusions, the General Conference adopted part II of 23 C/Resolution 0.9.

C. THIRD REPORT

Item 8.6 of the agenda - Amendment to Rule 54.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference with a view to the introduction of Portuguese as an official language of the General Conference (document 23 C/39)

(1) The Committee considered this item of the agenda at its fourth meeting on 12 October 1985, with its Chairman, H.E. Mr A. Guellouz (Tunisia), presiding.

(2) Rule 54.1 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference provides that 'Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Hindi, Italian, Russian and Spanish are the official languages of the General Conference'.

(3) At its 121st session, the Executive Board adopted decision 8.6, recommending to the General Conference the inclusion of Portuguese among those official languages, which would require an amendment to the aforesaid Rule 54.1

(4) Without pronouncing upon the sub-

stance of the question, the Legal Committee found that the amendment to the Rules of Procedure proposed by the Executive Board was legally admissible. Should the General Conference endorse this recommendation, it might adopt, with the addition of a reference to the report of the Legal Committee, the draft resolution contained in paragraph 7 of document 23 C/39. The adoption of this draft resolution requires no more than a simple majority.*

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 31.2).

D. FOURTH REPORT

Item 6.1 of the agenda - Study of the procedures currently used by Unesco to monitor the application of the standard-setting instruments adopted within the framework of the Organization (document 23 C/27)

I. Study of the procedures for monitoring the application of Unesco's standard-setting instruments

(1) The representative of the Director-General recalled that at its twenty-first session the General Conference had requested a study of the procedures in question with a view to making them more effective, as few States participated in those procedures. At its twenty-second session, the General Conference had requested that the study be continued and a report submitted to its twenty-third session. Document 23 C/27 constituted that report. The request of the General Conference had originally been prompted by its observation that a considerable variety of organs were involved in the procedures. Accordingly, the document submitted to the General Conference first addressed that question; it then analysed the advantages and disadvantages of establishing a committee of experts appointed in a personal capacity as had been envisaged in the study submitted to the twenty-second session of the General Conference; finally, the document explored other ways and means of improving the procedures, namely: (i) submission to the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations of the Executive Board, for their harmonization, of the draft questionnaires or forms prepared with a view to the drawing up of reports by Member States on the implementation of standard-setting instruments; (ii) preparation of questionnaires or forms yielding information that could be analysed using data-processing methods; and (iii) organization of a survey with Member States on any difficulties they might encounter in drawing up their reports and in actually applying standard-setting instruments. The Executive Board, at its 121st session, had adopted those three suggestions (121 EX/Decision 5.5.2).

(2) The Legal Committee generally considered that the establishment of a committee of experts would not be desirable. Several members pointed out that Unesco should not follow the example of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in view of the unique nature of the situation. One member said that in his opinion Unesco should rather find a model in the United Nations Organization, for example in its Committee on Human Rights or its Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

(3) Some members considered that the role of the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations of the Executive Board should be strengthened in the reporting procedure on Member States' application of standard-setting instruments, and that it should remain the keystone of the entire system. Two members expressed

regret that that Committee, which had been established to implement that procedure, was becoming increasingly tied up with the examination of communications alleging violations of human rights.

(4) Most of the members referred to the difficulties experienced by Member States in replying to too many questionnaires which were often excessively complicated. They felt that an effort should be made to simplify those questionnaires and that the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations might be able to take useful action to that end.

(5) The Committee decided to endorse the recommendations adopted by the Executive Board in 121 EX/Decision 5.5.2 and to propose that the General Conference should adopt a draft resolution based on that decision.*

II. Participation of the International Labour Office (ILO) in the procedure for monitoring the application of three Unesco Recommendations

(6) The representative of the Director-General told the Committee that the International Labour Office (ILO) had asked the Director-General to adopt, with respect to three Unesco Recommendations whose subjects bore upon the fields of competence of both organizations,** a system similar to that whereby Unesco was associated with the procedure for monitoring the application of four international labour conventions. The Executive Board at its 121st session had decided to accede to the ILO's request in accordance with the following procedure: 'Were the General Conference to decide to request reports from States on the application of the three Recommendations in question, Unesco would forward to ILO copies of the reports received, with the request that ILO transmit to the Organization such comments as it might deem appropriate, and in addition provide any further information that it might possess regarding the situation in the States from which the reports emanate. ILO would not be expected to furnish an evaluation of the extent to which the Recommendations in question are applied, but rather comments and information of a technical nature. The subsidiary organ of the Executive Board, in all likelihood

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 29.1).

** The Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (1974); the Recommendation on the Legal Protection of Translators and Translations and the Practical Means to Improve the Status of Translators (1976); and the Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (1980).

the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations, would thus be able to make use of the views and information communicated to it when it assesses the implementation of the Recommendations in question. ILO would in addition be invited to send representatives to the meetings of the subsidiary organ when it carries out its assessment. It was understood that Unesco would retain the initiative in implementing the procedure, and that the procedure would not be modified by the intervention of the International Labour Office. The Executive Board had in addition decided that its decision would be brought to the notice of the General Conference at its twenty-third session. It was reproduced as Annex V to document 23 C/27.

(7) The Legal Committee took note of decision 5.5.3 adopted by the Executive Board at its 121st session, the text of which is as follows (121 EX/Decision 5.5.3):

The Executive Board,

Considering the procedure for examining the reports of Member States on the application of the conventions and recommendations adopted by the General Conference,

Having examined the request of the International Labour Office that the International Labour Organisation be associated with the examination of Member States' reports on the application of the Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers (1974), the Recommendation on the Legal Protection

of Translators and Translations and the Practical Means to Improve the Status of Translators (1976) and the Recommendation concerning the Status of the Artist (1980) and the corresponding document (121 EX/15),

Considering that it might be in the interests of both organizations to make provisions for such co-operation,

Decides to accede to the request of the International Labour Office in accordance with the procedure set forth in paragraph 8 of document 121 EX/15, it being understood that Unesco will retain the initiative in implementing the procedure, and that the procedure will not be modified by the intervention of ILO;

Decides that this decision, together with document 121 EX/15, shall be brought to the notice of the General Conference at its twenty-third session under the provisional agenda item relating to the study of the procedures in force in Unesco for monitoring the application of the standard-setting instruments adopted by the Organization.

(8) The Legal Committee decided to recommend that the General Conference should take note of this decision of the Executive Board. To that end, the Legal Committee submits a draft resolution to the General Conference.*

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 29.2).

E. FIFTH REPORT

Item 5.3 of the agenda - Amendment of the statutes of intergovernmental councils and committees (document 23 C/26)

(1) The Legal Committee considered this agenda item at its sixth meeting, held on 14 October under the chairmanship of Mr A. Leibbrandt (Netherlands).

I. Terms of office of the bureaux of certain governing councils and committees of intergovernmental programmes

(2) The Legal Committee noted that as the statutes of the intergovernmental councils and committees listed in paragraph 3 below currently stood, and in line with the view taken by the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport in its own case, the Bureaux of those intergovernmental councils and committees were vacant in the interval between a session of the General Conference at which the membership of such councils or committees was renewed and the first meeting of those bodies following that renewal. It was felt that such vacancy could impair the efficiency of the aforesaid intergovernmental councils and committees.

(3) The Legal Committee consequently decided to recommend that the General Conference, should it see fit to remedy

the situation, adopt the draft resolution contained in paragraph 7 of document 23 C/26, amending the statutes of such intergovernmental councils and committees with a view to keeping the members of an outgoing Bureau in office until the election of a new Bureau. A simple majority would suffice for the adoption of this draft resolution.*

II. Terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme

(4) The Legal Committee noted that the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme had recommended that the General Conference, at its twenty-third session should amend Articles 4 and 9 of its statutes to enable the Intergovernmental Council to seek additional contributions for the implementation of specific activities of the General Information Programme which otherwise would not be carried out. The

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 32.1).

contributions sought would be voluntary contributions only. The proposed amendment would not impose any form of compulsory contributions on Member States.

(5) The Legal Committee decided to recommend that the General Conference, should it approve those proposals, adopt, with very minor changes, the draft resolution contained in paragraph 12 of document 23 C/26, amending Articles 4 and 9

of the statutes of the Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme. A simple majority would suffice for the adoption of this draft resolution.*

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 32.2).

F. SIXTH REPORT

Item 8.2 of the agenda - Methods of work of the General Conference (document 23 C/36)

(1) This item was examined by the Legal Committee at its twelfth meeting, held on Monday, 21 October 1985, with its Chairman, H.E. Mr A. Guellouz (Tunisia) presiding.

(2) The Secretary of the General Conference explained to the Legal Committee that the Executive Board had been invited, by resolution 4/01 adopted by the General Conference at its fourth extraordinary session, to make recommendations to the General Conference on its working methods. The recommendations put forward by the Executive Board at its 121st session included proposals for the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference and the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot. The proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference concerned, firstly, the officers of the commissions of the General Conference and the Nominations Committee (Rule 47.1). They involved increasing from three to four the number of Vice-Chairmen of those bodies and making the election of a Rapporteur compulsory instead of optional. The proposed amendments further concerned the time-limits for the circulation of draft resolutions as stipulated in Rule 78.2 (24 hours before the opening of the meeting instead of the day preceding the meeting) and the time-limits for the submission of proposed amendments to the draft programme, and draft amendments to the proposals covered by paragraphs 1 and 2 of Rule 78A, not involving the undertaking of new activities or an increase in budgetary expenditure, as stipulated in Rule 78A.3 ('five working days before the start of the debate on the section of the draft programme to which they relate', instead of 'before the closure' of the debate). The proposed amendments to the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot concerned the number of tellers provided for in Rule 2 (four instead of two) and three new rules (Rules 3bis, 12bis and 13bis) which would apply to the election of members of the bodies covered by Rule 30.5 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, and which dealt respectively with the form of the ballot papers and the mode of voting notwithstanding Rule 3, the definition of abstentions notwithstanding Rule 12, and

the definition of invalid ballot papers notwithstanding Rule 13(d).

(3) The Legal Adviser pointed out that the procedure for the adoption of proposed amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference and the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot was stated in Rule 107 of the Rules of Procedure and that that rule stipulated that the decision of the General Conference was taken by a majority of the members present and voting, on the advice of the Legal Committee.

(4) The Legal Committee considered that those proposed amendments did not raise any legal problems. Informed of a recommendation by the Administrative Commission that the words 'As a general rule' be prefixed to the proposed text for Rule 78A.3, the Legal Committee decided to recommend that the General Conference insert those words before 'not later than five working days ...'. The Legal Committee understood that the flexibility desired by the Administrative Commission in inserting those words applied solely to the time-limit of five days and considered that the placing of those words where it suggested removed any ambiguity in that respect.

(5) One member of the Committee stated, with reference to the proposed amendment to Rule 2 of the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot, concerning the tellers, that their appointment by the President or Chairman should take account of the following principles: the choice of tellers should reflect an equitable geographical distribution; for elections of members of an electoral group, the tellers could not belong to that same electoral group; for elections of members of the Executive Board, the tellers could not be chosen from among the nationals of Member States putting forward candidates. That member of the Legal Committee expressed the hope that consideration would be given to reflecting those principles in the relevant rules on the occasion of an amendment to Rules 2 and 10bis of the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot and a review of the procedure for the election of members of the Executive Board.

(6) The Legal Committee decided to

recommend that the General Conference adopt the amendments to its Rules of Procedure and the Rules for the conduct of elections by secret ballot submitted to it by the Executive Board in its decision 3.2.1 taken at its 121st session. To that end, it submits to the General Conference

a draft resolution, which in part follows the terms of that decision.*

* This draft resolution was adopted by the General Conference (23 C/Resolution 31.1).

G. SEVENTH REPORT

Item 5.2 of the agenda - Draft amendment to Article II, paragraph 6, of the Constitution (document 23 C/25)

(1) The Committee considered this item at its fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth meetings, held under the chairmanship of either H.E. Mr A. Guellouz (Tunisia), Chairman of the Committee, or of Mr A. Leibbrandt (Netherlands), Vice-Chairman.

Presentation

(2) The representative of the Director-General introduced this item of the agenda. As submitted by the Philippines, the draft amendment read as follows: 'Any Member State or Associate Member of the Organization may withdraw from the Organization by notice addressed to the Director-General who shall forthwith notify the other members of the Organization of the notice. The withdrawal shall take effect on 31 December following the ordinary biennial session of the General Conference held after the service of the notice to the Director-General; provided that the notice had been given at least one year before the opening of the biennial conference. No such withdrawal shall affect the financial obligations owed to the Organization on the date the withdrawal takes effect. Notice of withdrawal by an Associate Member shall be given on its behalf by the Member State or other authority having responsibility for its international relations'. The proposed modifications are underlined. A modification to this draft amendment was subsequently proposed by Jamaica, the proposal being to replace the words 'ordinary biennial session' by the words 'ordinary session' to cover cases where the session might not be biennial. The Legal Committee would need to consider:

(a) whether the draft amendment and the proposed sub-amendment were receivable from the formal point of view: both the draft amendment and the proposed sub-amendment had been communicated by the Director-General to the Member States and the Associate Members within the time limits set by the Constitution and by the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference;

(b) the legal consequences of the draft amendment and the proposed sub-amendment, that is to say, basically, of making the date of withdrawal coincide with the end of a budgetary period and of introducing a new time limit for serving notice of withdrawal;

(c) the date the amendment would come

into force: under the terms of Article XIII.1 of the Constitution, proposals for amendments become effective upon receiving the approval of the General Conference by a two-thirds majority; however, 'amendments which involve fundamental alterations in the aims of the Organization or new obligations for the Member States shall require subsequent acceptance on the part of two-thirds of the Member States before they come into force';

(d) the majority required: simple majority to decide whether or not the amendment involves new obligations for the Member States; two-thirds majority to adopt the amendment itself.

(3) The Legal Committee was informed of the contents of a letter dated 15 October 1985 addressed to the President of the General Conference by the Minister of Education, Culture and Sports, Head of the Philippine Delegation to the General Conference. That letter informed the President that the Philippine Delegation was 'withdrawing the following proposals: ... Item 5.2 - Draft amendment to Article II, paragraph 6, of the Constitution'. However, the General Conference, on the recommendation of the Legal Committee and in conformity with Rule 14.1 of its Rules of Procedure, had decided to keep this item on the agenda. In that connection, the Legal Adviser stated that while any State might withdraw on its own initiative an item which it had asked to be included in the provisional agenda until such time as the agenda was approved by the General Conference, that was no longer the case after such approval had been given. No decision concerning that item and the documents relating thereto could then be taken except by the General Conference itself, in conformity with Rule 14.1 of its Rules of Procedure. As the General Conference had decided to keep that item on the agenda, it was incumbent upon the Legal Committee to consider the proposed amendment in the terms in which it had been submitted to the General Conference. The Legal Adviser also mentioned the precedent at the sixteenth session of the General Conference, when the Legal Committee had concluded that the withdrawal of a proposed amendment to the Constitution by the State which had submitted it 'did not deprive other States of the benefit of communication by the Director-General to them within the prescribed time limit, if another State decided to

repeat the communicated proposal'. In that connection, the Legal Adviser drew attention to the fact that several members of the General Committee had said that they were prepared to repeat the item initially submitted by the Philippines.

Discussion

(4) The Legal Committee considered the prior question of whether, despite the fact that this item was being kept on the agenda by the General Conference, it could validly discuss it. Most members of the Committee thought that the withdrawal by the Philippines of its proposed amendment rendered the item nugatory and that, as a result, there was no proposal for the Committee to consider. Some members pointed out that the Philippines' proposed amendment had been the subject of a sub-amendment by Jamaica, which thus became in a way a co-sponsor of the proposal, and Jamaica was maintaining the proposal. The Committee considered that since, according to the legal maxim, a decision on a main issue applies to accessory matters, any modification to the main proposal lapsed together with that main proposal. Those same members pointed out that the initiative taken by the Philippines in proposing the amendment had probably caused other States to refrain from proposing their own amendments. Any refusal to consider the proposal could therefore inevitably cause frustration. Some members of the Committee considered that only the reintroduction by the Philippines itself of its proposal in the same terms as the initial proposal would give back substance to that item of the agenda. Any modification in the proposal or any change of author would make it necessary to begin again from the beginning the procedure for an amendment to the Constitution, including the constitutional time limits for communicating the draft to Member States. Some members said they were convinced by the precedent of the sixteenth session of the General Conference, when the Legal Committee had concluded that the withdrawal by its author of a proposal to amend the Constitution included in the agenda of the General Conference did not ipso facto remove it from the General Conference's consideration. The Committee considered however, that it was not bound by the opinion of its predecessors and that, in any event, each case should be assessed in context.

(5) The Chairman told the Committee that two Member States had informed the General Committee of the General Conference that they were prepared to repeat the proposed amendment submitted by the Philippines and would confirm that fact in writing. One member of the Committee considered that the General Conference could ask the Executive Board to study the proposal which was the subject of item 5.2 of the agenda, taking account of the provisions of the constitutions, rules and practices of the other Specialized Agencies of the United Nations system concerning the withdrawal of Member States, and should report thereon to

Member States before the end of 1986. The last amendment to the Constitution, the object of which was to increase the numbers of members of the Executive Board from 51 to 52, had been submitted to the twenty-second session of the General Conference, which had invited the Executive Board to study the proposal and to submit a report. Another member observed that an amendment could not have retroactive effect as regards notices of withdrawal given before the amendment took effect.

(6) One member of the Committee considered that, in order to facilitate any further consideration of the matter, the Executive Board's study could take account of three suggestions for possible amendments: the proposed amendment by the Philippines; an amendment which would impose a two-year notice of withdrawal, as was the case at ILO; and an amendment envisaging that withdrawal would take effect two years after the end of the year during which the notice was given.

Conclusions

(7) According to the Rules spelled out in Article XIII, paragraph 1, of the Constitution and Articles 103 et seq. of the Rules of Procedure of the General Conference, the procedure for dealing with proposals for amendments to the Constitution is the following:

(a) each proposal for amendments to the Constitution has to be communicated to Member States and Associate Members at least six months before their consideration by the General Conference;

(b) substantive changes in draft amendments to the Constitution have to be communicated to Member States and Associate Members at least three months before the opening of the session of the General Conference

(8) In line with the procedure referred to above, there was a proposal to amend Article II, paragraph 6, of the Constitution submitted by the Philippines and sub-amended by Jamaica. This proposal has been - by virtue of a letter dated 15 October 1985 - withdrawn by the Philippines. Consequently and from the legal viewpoint, the Legal Committee holds that there is no draft amendment to the Constitution to be considered.

(9) If a Member State, the General Conference or the Executive Board has the intention to propose a draft amendment to Article II, paragraph 6, of the Constitution, the Legal Committee draws the attention of the respective Member State or bodies to the fact that this has to be done in accordance with the rules mentioned above. According to Article XIII, paragraph 1, of the Constitution, proposals for amendments to the Constitution shall become effective upon receiving the approval of the General Conference by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting. Those amendments which involve fundamental alterations in the aims of the Organization or new obligations for the Member States shall require subsequent acceptance on the part of two-thirds of the Member States before they come into force.