UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE FOR CO-OPERATION ON ACTIVITIES, NEEDS AND PROGRAMMES FOR COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT

Paris, 14-21 April 1980

Address delivered by Mr. Mustapha Masmoudi, President of the Conference, on the occasion of the visit by Mr. Luis Herrera Campins, President of the Republic of Venezuela, on 16 April 1980
Mr. President,

I have the honour to extend a warm welcome to you on behalf of the delegations taking part in this Conference. Your presence among us here today gives us very great pleasure and we wish to express our deep gratitude for your decision to attend this meeting.

Mr. President, in visiting this true bastion of science and civilization at the invitation of the Director-General, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, you have done us a very great honour.

It is most fitting that your visit should coincide with an important conference on communication, which has brought together a great many eminent specialists in matters concerning communication and cultural policies with the aim of building bridges of mutual consultation and understanding, co-operation and interdependence between all the different human communities.

In making this gesture, you are paying tribute to all who believe in the spirit of mutual consultation. We know that you are one of the great pioneers of that movement and that from your earliest days you have always been strongly in favour of concerted action.

Did you not, indeed, begin your political career as a brilliant journalist - defending causes that were noble and just?

Mr. President,

Having expressed in these few words our profound esteem and respect, I now give the floor to Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow, Director-General of Unesco, who will tell you how much this solemn occasion means to him and to all of us here today.