First International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in Central Asia

(Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 14-18 November 1992)

REPORT
UNESCO

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REPORT

1. The First International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in Central Asia was organized at the Azadi Grand Hotel, Tehran on 14-18 November 1992 at the invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran. At its closing session, the Congress discussed and approved a draft declaration on "cultural and scientific co-operation in and for Central Asia". The final version of this declaration is reproduced as Appendix 1 herewith.

2. Conceived by Mr Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO, as the point of departure for the development of a wide range of UNESCO-linked activities in and for the region, the Congress was attended by academician, scholars, scientists and decision-makers designated by the governments of twenty-two countries, who were joined by representatives of foundations, academic institutions and the international press, as well as over eighty observers.

3. Thus the Congress brought together representatives of four of the five newly-independent countries of Central Asia -- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan (the representatives of Tajikistan were prevented from attending by unsettled conditions in their country) -- as well as of the three Transcaucasian republics -- Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The following neighbouring countries were also represented: Afghanistan, China, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Oman, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. A number of other countries, whose scholarly communities have a special interest in Central Asia, were represented by experts: France, Italy, Germany and the United Kingdom. The Hamdard Foundation Pakistan was represented by its President, Dr Mohammed Said, and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture by Mr Farrokh Derakhshani, Director of Award Procedures.
Scholars from Iranian institutions, as well as Harvard University, the School of Oriental and African Studies (London), and the University of Paris also attended, together with journalists from France and the United Kingdom. The complete list of participants is reproduced as Appendix 2.

4. The Congress was opened by the Director-General of UNESCO, after a welcome address by Dr Mostafa Moin, Minister of Culture and Higher Education of the Islamic Republic of Iran. A keynote address was then delivered by H.E. Mr Hassan Habibi, First Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dr Umirzak Sultangazine, President of the Academy of Sciences of Kazakhstan, then made a brief statement on behalf of the newly-independent countries of the region.

5. At the close of the opening ceremony the Congress approved by acclamation the Director-General's proposal to elect Dr. S.J. Shahidi, Eminent Professor at the University of Tehran, as Chairman and Dr Akhmadali Askarov, Director of the History Institute, Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, as Rapporteur. It also elected thirteen Vice-Chairmen, two of whom assisted the Chairman at each working session of the Congress. The list of Vice-Chairmen is given in Appendix 3.

6. The deliberations of the Congress took place in four plenary working sessions (14-16 November 1992), followed by discussions carried out in three informal working groups. This programme figures as Appendix 4. The three working groups were the following:

**Education** -- Chairman, Dr. Mered Orazov, Rector of the University of Turkmenistan; Rapporteur, Dr Eden Naby, Research Fellow, Harvard University.

**Science, technology and informatics** -- Chairman, Dr. Umirzak Sultangazine (Kazakhstan); Rapporteur, Mr Vefa Moustafaev of the UNESCO Secretariat.

**Cultural co-operation and applied social sciences** -- Chairman, Dr. Akhmadali Askarov (Uzbekistan); Rapporteur, Dr Shirin Akiner, School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

The three working groups presented their conclusions and recommendations in a plenary session. It was agreed that these recommendations would form part of the declaration to be drafted by the Congress secretariat under the supervision of the Congress Rapporteur.

7. On 17 November the participants visited Shiraz and Persepolis (Takht-e-Jamshed) as guests of the Iranian authorities. On this one-day excursion they visited the tombs of the poets Saadi and Hafez and several museums in the historic city of Shiraz, as well as the site of Persepolis, inscribed on the World Heritage List.
8. At its final session on 18 November 1992, the Congress discussed a draft "Tehran Declaration on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in and for Central Asia" presented by the Rapporteur. A number of additions and improvements resulted from this discussion. The Congress entrusted the Rapporteur, in co-operation with the secretariat, with integrating these changes into the draft text. This task was performed immediately after the close of the Congress.

9. The closing ceremony of the Congress was held in the morning of 18 November. At this ceremony, Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, delivered an address, which was followed by a speech by Dr Mostafa Moin, Minister of Culture and Higher Education and brief remarks by Mr Y.R. Isar, representing the Director-General of UNESCO. A representative of the Government of Turkey proposed a vote of thanks to the host country and to the Chairman, Dr. S.J. Shahidi and the Congress was then declared closed.
TEHRAN DECLARATION
ON CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION
IN AND FOR CENTRAL ASIA

We, the participants in the First International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in Central Asia, the first gathering of this kind, which brought together representatives of the newly-independent countries of Central Asia and Trans-Caucasia with representatives of neighbouring and several other countries thanks to the joint initiative of the Director-General of UNESCO and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran,

Welcoming this first opportunity to seek common ground on the basis of shared interests and aspirations in the domains of competence of UNESCO and in the spirit of the principles and purposes enshrined in UNESCO's Constitution,

Underlining that past threads of history, economic exchange, and cultural and spiritual values, in particular those of Islam, have helped weave a shared socio-cultural fabric across a vast region of the world and provide complementarities of interest in fields as diverse as archaeology, ethnography, historical scholarship and scientific research,

Reasserting the attachment of all the peoples of the region to their own values and their desire to preserve these values while at the same time participating in global patterns of socio-economic modernization,

Stressing that the example of the many historical innovators of the region can be a shared source of inspiration and guidance in the introduction of modern science and technology,

Convinced that action against shared natural threats such as desertification and pollution must be taken in the wider geo-historical context that provided a platform for the civilizations of Central Asia,

Underlining that the growing awareness of a shared and variegated cultural and spiritual heritage, which must be understood and revitalized in a spirit of pluralism, ethnic co-existence and unity in diversity, makes international co-operation vitally necessary and provides a rare opportunity for UNESCO to carry out its primary mission of promoting international intellectual co-operation,

Stressing that such co-operation will be vital in order to reshape the educational systems of the newly-independent countries, particularly with respect to curriculum content, language teaching and pedagogy, and that lines and systems of communication need to
be introduced between and among educational facilities at all levels -- Academies, universities, and pedagogical institutes.

Congratulating UNESCO for the initiatives it has taken already in order to involve individuals and institutions in these countries in regional networks of co-operation in science and technology, particularly with respect to the search for solutions to universal problems that are particularly acute in the region, i.e. environmental degradation, desertification and aridity, water resource management and earthquakes and other natural hazards;

Recognizing the contributions of UNESCO's projects on The History of the Civilizations of Central Asia and The Integral Study of the Silk Roads: Roads of Dialogue, while stressing the need to diversify the methods of work of the latter, so as to reach out to wider publics as well as disseminate more broadly the accumulated scientific results of the seminars and expeditions already carried out;

Supporting the idea of setting up an Institute of Central Asian Studies and thanking the government of Uzbekistan for its proposal to establish the Institute in Samarkand and the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its offer to provide financial support for the Institute once it is created, consider that further work should be carried out quickly so as to select among various alternative proposals concerning its nature, mode of functioning and location, as well as to better define its scientific programmes;

Recognizing that recourse to the applied social sciences will be indispensable in a period of transition to different patterns of political, social and economic behaviour, in national reconstruction and restructuring and opening out to global trends, while promoting a style of modernization that is appropriate to local conditions;

Stressing the key role of communication, information and informatics in socio-economic development as well as in promoting cultural and scientific co-operation in the region,

Endorsing both the "Declaration of Alma Ata on Promoting Independent and Pluralistic Asian Media" and the resolution adopted at Tehran on 12 November 1992 by the meeting of National Coordinators for RINSCA and Intergovernmental Informatics Programme (IIP) Focal Points;

Expressing our deep appreciation to the Director-General of UNESCO for having convened this Congress;

Thanking the Director-General for his efforts to protect the cultural heritage of Bosnia-Hercegovina and requesting him to continue these efforts,
Expressing our gratitude to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its kind and generous hospitality, which contributed greatly to the success of the Congress, and for the intention it has stated to contribute to several of the programmes outlined below,

Declare our whole-hearted support for UNESCO's efforts to promote a new dynamic of cultural and scientific co-operation in and for Central Asia and its neighbours,

Invite the newly-independent States of the region not already Member States of UNESCO to join the Organization as soon as possible,

Invite the newly-independent States of the region to ratify the UNESCO Conventions pertaining to educational, scientific and cultural co-operation, in particular those concerning the protection of the cultural heritage (Conventions of 1954, 1970 and 1972) and copyright and to use these Conventions as well as other international instruments adopted under the aegis of UNESCO as the basis for framing their new legislative frameworks in education, science and culture;

Request the Chairman of the Congress to bring this Declaration to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, since a number of the needs discussed, particularly with regard to the situation of agriculture, industrial development and trade in the newly-independent countries of the region fall under the competence of other agencies of the United Nations System,

Submit the following programme proposals to the Director-General of UNESCO and request him to bring them to the attention of the Organization's Member States, countries not currently Member States, non-governmental organizations and foundations and the intellectual communities concerned throughout the world.

SPECIFIC PROGRAMME PROPOSALS

We propose practical application of the above ideas and principles through the specific programme proposals outlined below. An order of priority should be established for these programmes.

We stress that UNESCO should begin implementing only those proposals for which money can really be found and allocated so as to build confidence in the new countries in the Organization's ability to complete its commitment to projects it undertakes.

We stress also that it is important to familiarize the countries of the region quickly with the activities and mechanism of UNESCO, including the resources of its Regional Offices and the
various networks of co-operation they support in all of UNESCO’s fields of competence. We request the organizers of UNESCO meetings to send invitations to specialists from the newly-independent countries of Central Asia and to seek ways of funding their participation.

We suggest that the Director-General consider the possibility of opening a new sub-regional office for Central Asia in due course.

I. **Education**

(a) to compile as soon as possible up-to-date and comprehensive data about the educational systems in Central Asian countries as a basis for future assessment of needs,

(b) to request the authorities in these countries to define as soon as possible their needs in such areas as curriculum, development and training and submit them to UNESCO,

(c) to promote ways and means for inter-university communication and exchange, including the formation of an association of vice-chancellors under the aegis of UNESCO,

(d) to promote the teaching and use of foreign languages by expanding the technical basis for language teaching, introduction of new methodology for language instruction, development and provision of language teaching materials, and training of language teachers as needed in order to strengthen the basis for the learning of foreign languages,

(e) to organize a series of workshops for Central Asian specialists and their counterparts in neighbouring countries to help design and develop curricula in such critical areas as social sciences, and with special emphasis on the development of curricula geared to teaching ecological issues in the schools in order to promote public awareness of beneficial environmental activities,

(f) to organize seminars in the fields of history, literature, economics, etc. with the aim of preparing textbooks in these disciplines that take into account the demands of objectivity and to appeal to Central Asian scholars in these disciplines to create rapidly a series of appropriate textbooks,

(g) to approach organizations in the industrialized countries that already provide free paper to various developing countries with a view to obtaining paper for the printing of such textbooks,
(h) to seek ways and means of helping to set up a paper factory for textbook production in one of the Central Asian countries.

II. Science and technology

(a) to assist the Academies of Sciences of the Central Asian Republics in the preparation and execution of programmes for cooperation with other countries of the region in the following fields of fundamental and applied research: physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, informatics, biotechnology, material science, ecology and industrial engineering;

(b) to assist in the formulation and execution of the following regional/sub-regional projects:

(i) Regional Project on Seismology;

(ii) Aral Sea Project (Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan);

(iii) Caspian Sea Project (Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan);

(c) to support the establishment or extension of regional networks in the following areas:

(i) Biotechnology;

(ii) Remote sensing (using SPOT data) in the field of environment for desertification monitoring and pollution control, including marine pollution of the Caspian and Aral Seas;

(iii) Exchange of scientific and technological information via telecommunication and computer links;

(iv) Renewable or alternative sources of energy;

(d) to support the creation of a research programme for machine translation of regional languages;

(e) to support the organization of international and regional/sub-regional conferences, symposia and meetings in the above-mentioned fields.
III. Cultural Co-operation

(a) to approach Member States, the International Centre for the Study of the Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, Rome (ICCROM), non-governmental organizations such as the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICONOS) and the International Council of Museums (ICOM), not-for-profit organizations and foundations in order to muster support for:

(i) the organization of in-country and regional seminars and/or training programmes in the conservation and restoration of cultural property, including crafts, decorative arts and old manuscripts;

(ii) conservation and restoration work on the historic monuments and historic city centres of the countries of Central Asia

(b) to promote a programme of research on the ancient monuments and other material and immaterial evidence, including ancient languages, of the cultural history of Central Asia that makes full use of the research potential and archival material that exists in the countries of Central Asia, in the neighbouring countries as well as throughout the world;

(c) to support the establishment of a computerized catalogue of archives and manuscripts held in Central Asian institutions as well as of material on Central Asia held outside the region which is in danger of being lost;

(d) to promote research programmes on the historical and cultural geography of Central Asia leading to the creation of an encyclopaedia and an atlas on these domains;

(e) to promote the undertaking of a study on the state of museums and libraries in the region;

(f) to promote national activities in film-making and theatre;

(g) to proceed quickly with the following steps concerning the proposed Institute of Central Asian Studies:

(i) transmit the present declaration to the countries of Central Asia, other interested Member States, as well as countries not Member States of UNESCO and request them to express their views on the desirability of creating the Institute and, in consultation with the intellectual
circles concerned, to submit proposals concerning its scientific programmes;

(ii) request Member States, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, including foundations, to clarify their position concerning funding of the proposed Institute;

(iii) convene a conference to formally establish the Institute as soon as it appears realistic to do so.

(h) under the Integral Study of the Silk Roads: Roads of Dialogue project, provide support to national institutions responsible for promoting its activities, in particular so as to ensure that the scientific results of these activities are brought to the attention of a wider public.

IV. Social sciences and their applications

(a) to promote exchanges of information and experience in the social sciences, particularly with a view to building capacities in disciplines whose application is most required in the present phase of transition, i.e. history, political science and public administration, sociology, economics, demography, statistics, automatic computer assisted cartography and social research methodology;

(b) to continue the series of conferences on women's issues initiated at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, London) in 1992, under the aegis of UNESCO, by organizing such meetings at regular intervals in venues that could include India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Oman and Turkey (invitations to be confirmed by the national authorities concerned);

(c) to consider means of promoting the establishment of a Business Management Training Institute in the region.

V. Communication, Information and Informatics

(a) to develop regional co-operation with a view to using the media for educational programmes and in building up wider awareness of the cultures of Central Asia and its neighbours;

(b) to study the creation of a regional broadcasting union bringing together the Central Asian countries and their neighbours in order to foster co-operation in radio and television;
(c) to study the establishment of a regional satellite television network in order to facilitate the exchange of news as well as cultural and scientific programmes;

(d) to organize a study under the aegis of the International Informatics Programme with a view to developing the informatics capabilities of the newly-independent countries and to integrating them in regional informatics networks.

Tehran, 18 November 1992
Appendix

Institutions that have indicated their ability to serve as focal points for the activities recommended (or that already do so)

1. - Research Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Iran (page 6: II. Science and technology, para. (b),(i))

2. - TUBIKAK, Turkish Scientific Research Organization (page 5: Science and technology, para. (c))

3. - Academy of Sciences of Kazakhstan and Institute of Informatics, Mongolia (page 6: II. Science and technology, para. (c),(ii))

4. - Regional Library on Science and Technology, Iran (page 5: II. Science and technology, para. (c), (iii))

5. - Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan (page 6: II. Science and technology, para. (c), (iv))

6. - Iranian Documentation Centre (page 5: II. Science and technology, para. (d))

7. - The Government of Turkey would be ready to host a regional seminar on archaeology and architectural conservation in Central Asia (page 6: Cultural Co-operation, para. (a) (ii))

8. - The Asian Cultural Documentation Centre, Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran (page 6: III. Cultural Co-operation, para. (f))

9. - The Government of Uzbekistan would be willing to host such the Conference mentioned on page 7: III. Cultural Co - operation para (g) (iii)

10. - The Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) (V. Communication, Information and Informatics, para. (b))

11. - The Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB) (V. Communication, Information and Informatics, para. (c))

This list will be completed in due course with the names of other institutions that participants who attended the Congress will provide.
APPENDIX 2

First International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Cooperation in Central Asia
(Tehran, 14-18 November 1992)

REVISED LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

I. Participants designated by States

AFGHANISTAN

Mr Ibrahim WARSAJI
Head, Department of International Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Abdul Rahim AFZALI
Deputy Head
Department of International Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

ARMENIA

Mr Aram SHAHINIAN
Vice-Minister of
Higher Education and Sciences

Mrs Violette AGBABABIAN
Executive Secretary
National Commission for UNESCO

AZERBAIJAN

Mr Shamseddin AKHUNDOV
Deputy Minister of Culture

Mr Eldar SALAEV
President of the
Academy of Sciences

Prof. Vassim M. MAMEDALIYEV
Dean Dept of Oriental Studies
Baku University
CHINA People's Republic of

Prof. CHEN Jiahou
Dean
Department of Oriental Studies
Peking University

Prof. LI Jingjie
Deputy Director
Institute of East European Russian
and Central Asian Studies
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Mr WU Yungui
Deputy Director
Department of Islamic Studies
Institute of World Religions
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Mr YE Yi-liang
Director of the Institute of
Iranian Culture Studies
Deputy Dean
Department of Oriental Studies
Peking University

FRANCE

Mr Nicolas GALEY
Coordinator for the Middle East and Africa
Directorate of Cultural Scientific and Technical Relations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

GEORGIA

Mr Petr METREVELI
Secretary-General
Georgian Commission for UNESCO

Mr Zurab BERIDZE
Director of the Department of
International Organizations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

GERMANY

Dr Claudius FISCHDACH
Second Secretary
Embassy of Germany in Tehran
INDIA

Prof. Iqtidar ALAM KHAN
Department of History
Aligarh Muslim University

Mr Y.N. CHATURVEDI
Secretary
University Grants Commission
Bahadur Zafar Marg New Delhi

IRAN Islamic Republic of

Dr J. AZHARI
Vice-Minister for Research
Chairman of the Iranian Cultural and
Scientific Committee of the Congress

Dr A. HAIRI
Professor at the Mashhad University

Dr (Mrs) Nasrin HAKAMI
President
Cultural Studies and Research Institute
Director
Asian Cultural Document Centre for UNESCO

Prof. N. KASSAI
Professor of Culture
Tehran University

Prof. S.J. SHAHIDI
Eminent Professor
Tehran University

Prof. Abdolhossein ZARIN KUB
Eminent Professor
Tehran University

ITALY

Prof. Umberto SCERRATO
University of La Sapienza

Prof. Angelo Michele PIEMONTESE
Cultural Attache
Italian Embassy
Tehran
KAZAKHSTAN

Mr Sailaou BATIRSHA-OLY
Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr Umirzak SULTANGAZINE
President of the Academy of Sciences

Mr Manash KOSYBAEV
Director
Institute of History and Ethnography
Academy of Sciences

KOREA Republic of

Mr Syeunggil PAIK
Senior Research Fellow in Culture
Korean National Commission for UNESCO

KYRGYZSTAN

Mr Emil Dj. SHUKUROV
Head of the Laboratory of the Academy of Sciences

Mr Djumakun S. SYDYKOV
General Director
of the Republican Fund "Kyrgyz Jibek Jollu"
body of the Coordinating Committee for the Silk Roads

Mr Valerii ZHIVOGLYADOV
Academician
Academy of Sciences

MONGOLIA

Mr Baatar CHADRAA
Vice-President
Mongolian Academy of Sciences

Mr D. TSAKHLGAAN
Secretary-General
Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO.

OMAN Sultanate of

Mr Soud AL-TINAMI
Director
Department of Postgraduate Studies
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PAKISTAN

Dr Abdul Qaseem MIAN
Secretary General
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Mr Jamil AHMAD
Third Secretary
Embassy of Pakistan
Tehran

RUSSIA Federation of

H.E. Ambassador KUZNETSOV
Head of Department Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr Igor DANILOV
Head of Cultural and Communication Department
Russian National Commission for UNESCO

SAUDI ARABIA Kingdom of

Mr Ibrahim MANNA
Permanent Delegate of Saudi Arabia to UNESCO

Dr Abdullatif AL-HULAIBI
Dean of Teachers College
Al Hasa

TURKEY

Prof. Nejat DIYARBEKIRLI
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Prof. Dr Ilber ORTAYLI
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Member of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO

Dr Ali Engin OBA
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TURKMENISTAN

Mr Murad ANNANEPESEVOV
Vice-President
Turkmenistan Academy of Sciences

Dr Dovletgeldy BABAYEV
Head of Department of Science and Technology
Government of Turkmenistan
Dr Muradov CHARY  
Secretary-General  
Turkmenistan Academy of Sciences  

Mr Murad ORAZOV  
Vice-President in charge of Culture  
Rector of the Turkmenistan University  

UNITED KINGDOM  

Mr Hamish COWELL  
Political Secretary  
British Embassy  
Tehran  

Mr Andrew KENT  
Commercial Secretary  
British Embassy  
Tehran  

UZBEKISTAN  

Mr Mahmud SALAKHITDINOV  
President  
Academy of Sciences  

Mr Akhmadali ASKAROV  
Director of the History Institute  
Academy of Sciences  

Mr Anvar DZHURABAEEV  
Editor-in-Chief  
Republican paper "Narounoe Slovo" "Khalk Suzi"  

II. Participants representing non-governmental bodies  

FOUNDATIONS  

Dr Hakim Mohammed SAID  
President  
Hamdard Foundation Pakistan  

Mr Farrokh DERAJKSHANI  
Director of Award Procedures  
Aga Khan Trust for Culture
III. Scholars and Journalists

Dr Shirin AKINER
Director
Central Asia Research Forum
University of London

Mr Daniel BALLAND
Professor
University of Paris-Sorbonne

Dr (Mrs) Eden NABY
Research Fellow
Harvard University
USA

Mrs Ellen VUOSALO-TAVAKOLI
Researcher
International Relations Office
of the Vice-President of Research
University of Mazandaran

Mr Paul MAUBEC
Journalist
France

Mrs Edith MAUBEC
Photographer
France

Ms Massoumeh TORFEH
BBC World Service

IV. Observers

AFGHANISTAN

Mr Amir Etenad DANISHYAR
Student of Law and Political Science
Tehran University

Mr Abdel HAIKHURASANI
Writer and
Commentator on Culture Education and Politic

IRAN Islamic Republic of

Mr ABOLGHASSEMI
Researcher
Mr ABOOZARI
Engineer

Mr AINEHVAND
Researcher

Mr AMINIZADEH
Adviser to the Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr AZARI
Professor and Researcher

Mr BINESH
Researcher

Mr SHARAFAT
Professor and Researcher

Mr SHERDOUST
Adviser to the Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance

Mr SHIRAZY
Engineer

Mrs DAREHHEYDAR
Researcher

Mrs DASTGHEIB
Member of Parliament

Mr DOAI
Director-General of Ettelaat Institute

Mr JAVEDANI
Researcher

Mrs ECHRAGI
Researcher

Mr EVINI
Vice Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr PALATURY
Professor and Researcher

Mr FAZEL
Vice Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr GHAEMIAN
Adviser to the Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mrs GHARYB
Member of Parliament
Mr HASHEMI  
President Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting (IRIB)

Mr HASSANY  
Researcher

Mr S. ISFAHANI  
Rector of the Teacher-Training University

Mr JAAFFARY  
Researcher

Mr JANNATY  
Researcher

Mr KAJAVIAN  
Professor at the University of Machhad

Mr KHALIJI  
Rector of Allameh Tabatabai University

Mr KHANIKI  
Adviser to the Minister of Education and Higher Education

Mr KHATAMI  
President of the National Library

Mr KHORCHROU  
Vice Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance

Mr KHODADADIAN  
Researcher

Mr LABBAF  
Archaeologist

Mr LARIJANI  
Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance

Mr MAAROUFY  
Researcher

Mrs MACHAYEKH  
Researcher

Mr MALEKI  
Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr MASJEDJAMEI  
Vice Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance

Mr MEHRAD  
Researcher
Mr A. MOGHADDAM
Researcher

Mr MOHAGHEGH
University Professor

Mr MOHAJERANI
Researcher

Dr MOIN
Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr M. MONFARED
Vice Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr MOSTAFAVY
Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr MOTAMEDI
Vice Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr NADIMI
Rector of Shahid Beheshti University

Mr NAJAFI
Minister of Education

Mr NAVAI
Researcher

Mr POURJAVADI
Professor and Researcher

Mr POURRIAHY
Engineer

Mr RACHED
Researcher

Mr RAGHFAR
Adviser to the Minister of Culture and Higher Education

Mr RAHIMIAN
Rector of the University of Teheran

Mr RANJBAR
Researcher

Mr ROCHANRAVAN
Engineer

Mrs SADIGHY
Member of Parliament
Mr SADOUGH VANINI
Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to UNESCO

Mr SAKET
Researcher and Lawyer

Mr SALEHI
Rector of the Sharif Polytechnic

Dr SAYARI
Vice Minister of Coordination of the Ministry of Culture and Higher Education

Mr SEIEDY
Researcher

Mr SHAHIDI
Vice Director IRIB Iran

Mr SOROUCH
Philosopher

Mr TABESHIAN
Deputy Director-General IRIB Republic of Iran

Mr TAEB
Rector of the University of Science and Technology

Mr TAFAZZOLY
Researcher

Mr TAGHIKHANI
Rector of the International University of Imam Khomeini

Mr TASNIMI
Rector of Khajeh Nassir-Al-Din-Toussi University

Mr TASSLIMI
Rector of Amir Kabir Polytechnic

Mr TAVAKKOL
Secretary-General Iranian National Commission for UNESCO

Mr VARJAVAND
Researcher

Mr VELAYATI
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr VERDINEJAD
Director General of the Islamic Republic of Iran Press Agency

Mr ZARGAR
Vice Minister of Culture and Higher Education
Mr ZOHOUR
Rector of Payam Nour University

Mr ZAMORODIAN
University Professor

V. **Iranian/English Interpreters**

Mr Reza AMENI
Miss Mojgan JALALI

VI. **UNESCO Secretariat**

Mr Federico MAYOR
Director-General

Mr Y.R. ISAR
Director
International Fund for the Promotion of Culture

Dr Aram AKOPOV
Programme Specialist
UNESCO Regional Office for Science and Technology in New Delhi

Mr V. MOUSTAFAEV
Programme Specialist
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Mr Ehsan NARAGHI
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Mr Alexandre ANDREYEV
Chief Interpreter

Mr Andrei BESPALOV
Interpreter

Mr David HOGG
Interpreter

Mr Vadim POLIAKOV
Interpreter

Mrs Evelyne ELBERT-BEDU
Secretary Silk Roads Project
List of Vice-Chairmen
(in alphabetical order)

1. Professor I. Alam Khan (India)
2. Academician M. Annaneposov (Turkmenistan)
3. Academician Ch. Chadraa (Mongolia)
4. Ambassador V. Kuznetsov (Russian Federation)
5. Professor J. Li (China)
6. Dr I. Ortayli (Turkey)
7. Dr A. Qaseem Mian (Pakistan)
8. Academician E. Salaev (Azerbaijan)
9. Mr A. Shahinian (Armenia)
10. Academician U. Sultangazine (Kazakhstan)
11. Mr I. Warsaji (Afghanistan)
12. Academician V. Zhivoglyadov (Kyrgyzstan)

[13. Professor A. Shariat Madari (Iran) was also elected Vice-Chairman in order to assist the Chairman, Professor S.J. Shahidi]
First International Congress on Cultural and Scientific Co-operation in Central Asia
(Tehran, 14-18 November 1992)

PROGRAMME OF WORK

Saturday 14 November
09:00 - 12:00 hours

Opening Session

- Announcement by Dr Mohammad Tavakkol
- Welcome address by Dr Mostafa Moin, Minister of Culture and Higher Education, Islamic Republic of Iran
- Opening address by Mr Federico Mayor, Director-General of UNESCO
- Keynote address by Dr Hassan Habibi, First Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Address by Dr Umirzak Sultangazine, President of the Academy of Sciences of Kazakhstan

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- Election of a Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur
Saturday 14 November
14:00 - 17:00 hours

First Working Session

Education: Needs and possibilities for cooperation

- Prof. Zarin Kub, "Co-operation in Central Asia"
- Prof. Mered Orazov, "Prospects for the Development of Higher Education in Turkmenistan"
- Mr Petr Metreveli, "Georgia as a new partner on cooperation in science and education"
- Dr (Mrs) Eden Naby, "Integration of Central Asia into global educational development".

[Discussion]

Sunday, 15 November
09:00 - 12:00 hours

Second Working Session

Science and Technology: Needs and possibilities for cooperation

- Mr Aram Shahinian, "Potentials for Scientific and Technical Cooperation between Armenia and Central Asia"
- Academician Mahmud Salakhitdinov, "Prospects for Cooperation in the sciences between Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries"
- Academician Murad Annanepesov, "Science and the development of Turkmenistan"
- Academician Umirzak Sultangazine, "Cooperation in new technology and problems of ecological monitoring"
- Mr Emil Dj. Shukurov, "Ecological cooperation in Central Asia"
- Dr J. Azhari, "Prospects for scientific and technological cooperation"

[Discussion]
Sunday, 15 November  
14:00 - 17:00 hours  

Third Working Session  

Cultural and social issues: Needs and possibilities for cooperation  

- Dr A. Hairi, "The concept of freedom and Central Asia"  
- Ambassador Kuznetsov "Approach of Russia to Cultural and Scientific Cooperation in Central Asia"  
- Mr Manash Kozibaev, "Independence and History"  
- Mr Shirin Akiner, "Women and Development: a perspective on Central Asia".  
- Mr Djumakun Sydykov "Silk roads programme as a necessary counter-balance to cultural isolation"  
- Mr Akhmadali Askarov, "The links between early cities of Uzbekistan and Iran"  

[Discussion]

Monday, 16 November  
09:00 - 12:00 hours  

Fourth Working Session  

Communication, Information sciences and Informatics: Needs and possibilities for cooperation  

- Mr Ibrahim Warsaji, "The Islamic State of Afghanistan and its role in promoting cultural and scientific cooperation"  
- Mr Anvar Dzhurabaev, "Key cultural issues in Central Asia"  
- Dr A. Qaseem Mian, "Pakistan's potential for cooperation with the countries of Central Asia"  
- Dr Muradov Chary, "The future of computer science in Turkmenistan"  
- Prof. N. Kassaii, "Merv as the centre of cultures, contacts and communications"
Prof. D. Balland, "French studies in Central Asia: Evolution, structure and perspectives"

Prof. U. Scerrato, "Italy's cultural cooperation for Central Asian countries"

Prof. A.R. Sharafat, "UNESCO's Intergovernmental Informatics Programme in Asia"

Prof. Nejat Diyarbekirli, "Remarks on UNESCO's Silk Roads Programme"

Mr Tabeshian, "Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, its potential for regional co-operation"

Mr Labbaf, "Archaeological evidence of long-standing regional ties"

Monday, 16 November
14:00 - 17:00 hours

Fifth Working Session

Towards the definition of joint projects and programmes

- Dr (Mrs) N. Hakami, "Cultural ties between Iran and Central Asia"

- Informal discussion in three working groups: education; science, technology and informatics; culture, communication and applied social sciences

- Reports of the three working groups considered in plenary sessions

Wednesday, 18 November
09:00 - 12:00 hours

Closing Session

- Discussion of draft "Tehran Declaration on cultural and scientific co-operation in and for Central Asia"

- Address by Dr Ali Akbar Velayati, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran

- Closing statement by Dr Mostafa Moin, Minister of Culture and Higher Education, Islamic Republic of Iran