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PROPOSALS FOR THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF UNESCO

SUMMARY

In 27 C/Resolution 15 the General Conference invited the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board at its 144th session proposals concerning activities planned to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO.

The present document contains a series of proposals concerning the aims that could be set for this celebration, possible guiding principles and the nature of the activities to be carried out.

1. By adopting 27 C/Resolution 15, 'Celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO' (see Annex I), the General Conference wished to emphasize the importance that should be ascribed to this anniversary and to underscore the exceptional conjunction of events that will mark 1995 and make it a turning-point for both UNESCO and the United Nations system as a whole.

2. On 16 November 1995, when the General Conference will be holding its twenty-eighth session, 50 years will have elapsed since the day when a conference in London attended by the representatives of 44 States adopted the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. When we look back now, we see that the adoption of our Organization's Constitution was a major event not only because it marked the prelude to the official birth of UNESCO, on 4 November of the following year, but also because it enshrined a very noble-minded declaration of an ethical and political 'message' that is still astonishingly relevant today.
3. The year 1995 will also mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, and it goes without saying that UNESCO should make an important contribution to its celebration. It has already started, moreover - and was the first of the agencies of the United Nations system to do so - by proposing that 1995 be proclaimed United Nations Year for Tolerance - since the practice of tolerance features in the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations as one of the fundamental aims of the United Nations. This twofold celebration - the preparations for which must be closely co-ordinated - will afford a particularly propitious opportunity for underscoring both the Organization's specific role and its contribution to the attainment of the common goals of the United Nations system.

4. The year 1995 will also be marked by the holding of the World Summit for Social Development, the fourth World Conference on Women, the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year, the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations University and the twenty-fifth anniversary of International Education Year - all events likely to draw public attention and create a ground swell of mobilization on which UNESCO must capitalize. It is therefore proposed that activities to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO be carried out mainly in 1995, it being understood that events must also be held in 1996 to mark its official creation.

5. Lastly, 1995 will be marked by the adoption of the fourth Medium-Term Plan, which will pave UNESCO's way into the next century and, more importantly, into the next millennium. This conjunction creates, as underlined by the General Conference, 'an exceptionally propitious climate for initiatives aimed at renewal making it possible to approach the major issues of the future'. The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO must therefore not be confined to purely commemorative activities: it should go far beyond that and make a contribution to the shaping of the UNESCO of the twenty-first century. It should be an opportunity, while drawing on the lessons of 50 years of experience, to commit the Organization to a resolutely future-oriented approach designed to anticipate future needs and explore innovative ways and means of meeting them.

I. AIMS

6. In the light of the guidelines in 27 C/Resolution 15, three major aims may be set for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO.

   (a) To improve knowledge of the Organization's mission, objectives and achievements

7. Any commemoration affords an opportunity for a wide-ranging public information and awareness-raising campaign. Such, in fact, was the main object of the events held on the occasion of UNESCO's fortieth anniversary, which was marked by such undertakings as a retrospective exhibition 'UNESCO 1946-1986: A Grand Design in Action', a publication entitled 'UNESCO on the eve of its fortieth anniversary', which was a review of UNESCO's main achievements, and a film 'From ideal to action'.

8. True to the spirit of the provisions of 27 C/Resolution 15, very special emphasis could be laid for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary on UNESCO's contribution to the advancement of ideas (its role as a precursor or at least as a sounding board for new ideas) and the attainment of the common goals of the entire United Nations system.
(b) To encourage the mobilization of all the Organization's current or potential partners

9. In addition to the Organization's institutional partners (such as the National Commissions, international non-governmental organizations, UNESCO clubs and associations and associated schools) that could be called upon to speak about their association with UNESCO, the fiftieth anniversary could be the opportunity to form new partnerships in civil society (with parliamentary bodies, municipalities, local communities, trade unions, firms, the media and others) in accordance with the strategy proposed under the next Medium-Term Plan.

(c) To contribute to the 'refoundation' of UNESCO and of the United Nations system as a whole

10. This aim - which would give originality to the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary - is mentioned in 27 C/Resolution 15: to organize future-oriented reflection in order to anticipate the 'needs and aspirations of the rising generation' and to 'prepare the Organization to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century' by contributing to the renewal of its programme and modes of action. To attain such an aim the entire period up to the year 2000 must be turned to good account. Certain initiatives taken on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary should therefore constitute a contribution to the preparation of the next Medium-Term Plan and be continued during its implementation.

11. The celebration of the fiftieth anniversary would therefore be seen less as an 'event' than as a 'process' starting in 1995 and devised to effect the transition not only from one century to another but also from a culture of war to a culture of peace and from a conception of the role of the United Nations system - in which 'the maintenance of peace' is the main object - to a broader conception that would give pride of place to action to 'strengthen', that is, 'build' peace.

II. PRINCIPLES

12. In the light of the guidelines in 27 C/Resolution 15 and within the framework of the aims set out above, the programme to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary might comprise three types of activity:

celebration activities (commemorative ceremonies, exhibitions, concerts, dissemination of promotional material, etc.) to sustain a wide-ranging information and awareness-raising campaign implemented in Member States, with or without the Organization's assistance;

activities of 'substance' likely to contribute to the revitalization of UNESCO's intellectual role and to the renewal of its programme. These activities should make it possible, in the actual words of 27 C/Resolution 15, 'to approach the major issues of the future' in our different fields of competence and to 'stimulate reflection on the Organization's role in the world of tomorrow';

activities undertaken by the Organization's Member States and other partners to mark the occasion and awarded the 'fiftieth anniversary' label.
13. *Anticipation, innovation and selectivity* could be the main watchwords in drawing up the programme for the fiftieth anniversary. This programme should:

(a) focus more on the future than on the past (even though allowances must perforce be made for review activities);

(b) lay greater emphasis on activities of substance than on celebrative activities proper;

(c) give pride of place to field activities (that is to say, in the Member States) rather than to those organized at Headquarters;

(d) focus primarily (but not exclusively) on young people (aged 15 to 25), since any future-oriented approach that ignored those who are and will be the agents and beneficiaries of change would be both futile and illusory;

(e) be covered by a 'unifying' theme that would be the source of inspiration and coherence for all the activities. The concept of 'culture of peace' seems to be a must in that connection, even though it would have to be spelled out, for the general public, through a certain number of keywords such as 'tolerance', 'non-violence', 'equity' and 'solidarity'.

**III. ACTIVITIES OF SUBSTANCE**

14. A very selective list of activities that comply with the principles and criteria set out above is being drawn up. It will include a number of activities already provided for in the Approved Programme and Budget for 1994-1995, and, if necessary, they will be refocused to make a better contribution to the aims of the celebration. The following examples may be mentioned:

- the planned publication in 1995 of the reports of the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-First Century and of the World Commission on Culture and Development;

- the symposium 'Science and Culture: Common Path to the Future', to be organized jointly with the United Nations University in Tokyo (Japan);

- certain high-profile activities organized to mark the United Nations Year for Tolerance:

  - the Young Peoples' World Heritage Forum, to be held in Bergen (Norway) in June 1995 to encourage dialogue between young people and mayors of towns and cities belonging to the world heritage;

  - the preparation of a 'Bill of the Rights of Future Generations', of which a preliminary draft, prepared by a group of experts formed by UNESCO and the Cousteau team, is at the disposal of members of the Executive Board.

These activities will be awarded a 'fiftieth anniversary' label, and a special effort will be made to promote them, especially through the media.

15. There will also be a small number of new activities, which will represent excellent 'renewal initiatives' in terms of both approach to problems of the contemporary world and conception of the Organization's role and means of action. These activities must necessarily be given an anchorage point in 1995 (or possibly in 1996) but could be designed to occupy a
longer term, up to the threshold of the twenty-first century, and be implemented throughout the period covered by the fourth Medium-Term Plan.

16. Several proposals are under consideration. Some mentioned in the following paragraphs are given purely as a guide, to elicit reactions and suggestions from the Executive Board. As they were conceived to be an integral part of the Medium-Term Plan itself the final choice could be made only at the end of the process of consultation on the Plan.

Declaration on the culture of peace

17. The idea of a solemn declaration to be adopted by the General Conference on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO was presented to the General Conference at its twenty-seventh session by the delegation of Ukraine. It was taken up by the Director-General, who explained in the statement he made after the adoption of 27 C/Resolution 15 what its purpose would be. The 'Declaration on the culture of peace' would constitute a sort of moral testament that the international community would leave to future generations at the dawn of the twenty-first century. Drawing on the ideas, principles and objectives set forth in the Constitution, it would state clearly their implications for the world today and tomorrow. The National Commissions should be very closely involved in the preparation of the draft declaration, which could also be examined at a symposium held in 1995 on the relevance of the Constitution today.

State of emergency in education

18. Our world is moving steadily towards a society of information and knowledge, and the twenty-first century is already being referred to as the 'education century'. The observable gap between educational provision and demand is likely to widen to such an extent that larger and larger sections of the population will in the years ahead find themselves relegated to the sidelines. It is necessary to raise awareness on a large scale of the seriousness of the problem and generally mobilize not only government leaders but also the various components of civil society. On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO 'a state of emergency in education' could imaginably be declared for a specific period, with well defined objectives to be attained by the end of that period. A world conference could be convened on the subject in 1996 to take stock of the situation and the prospects and, capitalizing on the conclusions of the commission chaired by Jacques Delors, define a set of energetic measures for implementation by Member States, the various qualified participants in civil society and international organizations, all of which would make a clear, firm commitment to implement them.

Higher education and the world of work

19. Under the next Medium-Term Plan UNESCO could strive to promote a radically new conception of the university, in terms of both its function and its functioning, in which it would be a place permanently accessible to all and would engage in much closer collaboration and exchanges with professional circles. Recent contacts with various Specialized Agencies of the United Nations system, the World Bank, OECD, the Council of Europe and the appropriate non-governmental organizations have revealed keen interest in the idea of holding an international congress on higher education in 1996 or 1997: such a congress could have the links between the university and the world of work as its main theme. Preparatory activities could be launched in 1995, in particular a youth forum on training organized with the assistance of non-governmental organizations active in youth affairs.
Science and ethics

20. More and more pressing questions are constantly emerging, not only among the public but also in professional circles, regarding the ethical consequences of the prodigious scientific advances that have marked the last few decades. One of the major challenges of the twenty-first century will undoubtedly be the formulation of scientific ethics: UNESCO has already embarked on this course - with the International Bioethics Committee set up to prepare an international instrument on the human genome.

21. Other initiatives along the same lines could be taken to mark the fiftieth anniversary. Several options are under consideration, including:

- the establishment of an international commission on science, which would bring together great scientists, Nobel prize-winners, eminent philosophers and ethics specialists, to reflect on the priorities of science in the years ahead and its role, particularly with regard to human integrity, dignity, freedom and well-being;

- an attempt to persuade the scientific community to devise a 'scientific oath', just like the Hippocratic oath but applicable to all the sciences, that researchers might swear of their own free will when they start their scientific career.

New information technologies

22. Recent developments in information and communication technologies, and above all the burgeoning of 'multimedia' combinations, will have considerable impact on many aspects of social life (social organization, ways of life and learning, creation and transfer of knowledge, language, reasoning and decision-making processes, etc.). It is important to get a better understanding of the significance of the changes to which they might lead and their foreseeable impact on aspects of life in the Organization's fields of competence. There could conceivably be meetings on the new information technologies to which representatives of intellectual and scientific communities, professional and industrial circles and political leaders could be invited, to assist in the assessment of the new possibilities held out by these technologies for the accomplishment of UNESCO's tasks.

Survey on youth on the threshold of the twenty-first century

23. The resolution adopted by the General Conference stresses the need for activities marking the fiftieth anniversary to fit 'into the perspective of future measures ... focused on the needs and aspirations of the rising generation'. Throughout the world, young people continue to constitute, now more than ever before, a sort of terra incognita. UNESCO's fiftieth anniversary could provide the opportunity to launch a great international survey on the young (aged 15 to 25) that would improve knowledge of their life-style, needs and aspirations - as expressed by young people themselves - their value systems, their vision of the future, of the role of education, science, culture and communication, and their attitude to certain major present-day issues. This survey must necessarily be highly decentralized, which implies that field units, National Commissions, associated schools, UNESCO clubs and also, as the case may be, youth movements, universities, parliaments, trades unions and of course, young people themselves must participate. Financed essentially under sponsorship arrangements, it could spread over the period 1995-1999 and end with some sort of 'White paper on youth in the year 2000' and the establishment of a 'youth observatory' that would periodically issue the results of a similar survey. It would be popularized by means of feature programmes and articles,
televised competitions and publications involving writers or journalists of renown, and all other channels of dissemination likely to hold the attention of young people themselves.

**Status reports in our fields of competence on the eve of the year 2000**

24. In the same vein, a set of works (mainly in UNESCO's 'World Reports' series) could be prepared, giving 'status reports' on diverse areas relating to our fields of competence (the state of the environment; the state of literacy and illiteracy; the state of freedom of expression, etc.).

**IV. CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES**

25. In response to the General Conference's wish to restrict the number of 'purely commemorative' activities, efforts are expected to focus on the production of written and audio-visual materials to stimulate and support the action taken by Member States and other UNESCO partners. Among the activities already selected, mention may be made of:

(a) the production of a fiftieth-anniversary logo, a poster, a pennant and a commemorative postage stamp;

(b) the production of a multimedia information kit (written material, audio cassette and video cassette) that can be distributed in separate units according to the needs of the various users;

(c) the dissemination of educational material, including:

   two brochures produced within the framework of the Associated Schools network - *World concerns and the United Nations* (coproduced with the United Nations) and *What young people should know about UNESCO and the United Nations*;

   a multimedia interactive CD-ROM entitled *The 400 Wonders of the World*, intended primarily for young people and providing information on world heritage sites and the action taken to safeguard them (in English, French and Spanish);

   various language editions (as copublications or by transfer of rights) of *Terres du futur* (Lands of the future), which has already been published in French; targeted at a young readership, this work gives an overview of major current issues (development, environment, energy, bioethics, etc.);

   a 'Junior Courier' supplement to the UNESCO Courier, specifically designed for the 15 to 20 age-group;

   possibly, a publication for children (*A picture story of UNESCO*);

(d) the publication of reference works on UNESCO:

   the work on UNESCO entitled *Chronique d'un grand dessin* (Chronicle of a Grand Design) (by Mr Conil Lacoste), which has already come out in French, will be published in other languages of the Organization:

   a history of UNESCO (written by F. Valderrama), which has already come out in Spanish, will be published in English and French;
the Association of Former UNESCO Staff Members has offered to produce a collective work made up of personal accounts relating the life of the Organization since its beginnings;

several other proposals are being considered (a work drawing on UNESCO's unpublished archives, a UNESCO 'history of ideas', highlighting the pioneering role played by the Organization, etc.);

(e) exhibitions:

a modular photographic exhibition of world heritage sites, accompanied by written and audio-visual material intended for distribution, will travel to various parts of the world throughout 1995;

an exhibition on the London Conference might be organized at Headquarters during the twenty-eighth session of the General Conference;

(f) a commemorative coin programme; this programme, carried out in co-operation with the International Numismatic Group, will comprise 15 silver coins and five gold coins on the common theme of the cultural heritage.

26. Various events (such as concerts, performances and exhibitions), proposed by external partners and likely to be financed by extra-budgetary resources, are being considered. Examples are:

a concert given in Hiroshima (Japan) by very young choristers from various regions of the world; this concert, dedicated to peace and intercultural understanding, would be cosponsored by UNESCO and the city of Hiroshima and broadcast over the networks of the NHK television channel;

a dramatic performance on 'The children of the world' produced by an internationally renowned theatre producer; this travelling show would be accompanied by a multimedia exhibition (children's drawings, photographs, video documentaries, etc.);

one or more concerts by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, involving musicians and musical traditions from various regions of the world.

27. On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary an effort will be made to use UNESCO's premises at Headquarters more effectively; plans include the following:

a meditation area designed by the Japanese architect Tadao Ando;

redesigned reception and information areas in the Fontenoy building, under the responsibility of Renzo Piano;

a mural on one of the walls of the Bonvin piazza (to be selected by means of international competition).

28. Various events will of course be organized during the twenty-eighth session of the General Conference. In addition to a ceremony commemorating the adoption of the Constitution (to which some of the participants in the London Conference might be invited) and an exhibition (which might include the original Constitution or, failing that, a facsimile), consideration might be given to devoting a special session (a whole day, for example) to an
in-depth discussion that might be introduced by leading intellectuals, on a theme such as 'the culture of peace', 'tolerance' or 'the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind'. This pause in the General Conference proceedings might give it an opportunity to exercise fully its role of 'guidance', i.e. of looking ahead to the future.

29. Steps have also been taken to organize the holding of a commemorative ceremony in London, for example at the place where the Constitution was signed.

30. A number of ceremonies are also to be held on 4 November 1996, the anniversary of the official founding of UNESCO, both at and away from Headquarters.

V. SUPPORT FOR THE ACTION TAKEN BY MEMBER STATES

31. It is up to the Member States themselves, first and foremost, to celebrate UNESCO's fiftieth anniversary. This is the spirit behind 27 C/Resolution 15, which invites Member States to mark this anniversary by 'initiatives in the Organization's fields of competence' and to mobilize to that effect 'all educational, scientific and cultural communities, young people and civil society in general'. In the circular letter sending Member States the text of the resolution the Director-General suggested that a national committee for the celebration of this anniversary be established within each of the National Commissions for UNESCO. He informed them that 'the Organization would be willing to provide assistance, under its Participation Programme, for any initiatives' Member States might take. By way of example, he attached to his letter a list of types of activity that he regarded as being consistent with the spirit and aims of the General Conference resolution. That list is provided for information in Annex II to this document.

32. Circular letters have also been sent to international non-governmental organizations, Associated Schools and UNESCO associations, centres and clubs, inviting them to associate themselves with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary. Another letter will be sent to the National Commissions in May to give them more precise information and guidelines for action in the light of the Executive Board's conclusions when it has discussed the subject.

33. The field units will of course be required to play an active mobilization and support role. They themselves have been invited to organize events ('open days', exhibitions, symposiums, competitions, etc.) and to provide all necessary assistance to the action taken by Member States in their region or subregion. The Office of Public Information, for its part, will open up its photographic and audio-visual archives - many of which have never been used - to any National Commissions wishing to use them for the production of radio, television or video programmes and for exhibitions.

34. Advantage will be taken of several international conferences to mobilize our partners - the twenty fourth Conference of International Non-Governmental Organizations (June 1994), the fourth Congress of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (Romania, July 1995) and the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Education, Science and Culture to be held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union at an extraordinary session at UNESCO Headquarters in 1996. International Teachers' Day (5 October), which is to be celebrated for the first time this year, might also provide an opportunity in 1995 to enlist the support of the educational community worldwide for UNESCO's ideals.

35. Finally, it may be noted that a number of educational, scientific and cultural communities in States that have left the Organization have shown an interest in associating themselves with the fiftieth-anniversary celebrations. The Organization will lend them its full support,
particularly through its relations of co-operation, in the United States, with the 'Friends of the United Nations' and 'Americans for the Universality of UNESCO' associations and, in the United Kingdom, with 'The Friends of UNESCO' and the 'United Nations Association of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland'.

VI. TIMETABLE AND METHODS OF PREPARATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY PROGRAMME

36. The Director-General, who attaches great importance to UNESCO's fiftieth anniversary as the starting-point for a process of 'refoundation' of the Organization, has decided to place the preparation and implementation of the activities to mark this celebration under his personal authority.

37. In order to rally as much support as possible, he has invited Member States, in the circular letter sent to them, to submit to him their ideas and suggestions concerning activities that the Organization might undertake on this occasion, and also information on any action they themselves are planning to take.

38. The Director-General has also embarked on consultations for the establishment of an advisory group composed of representatives of Member States and eminent persons outside the Organization, which will be responsible for submitting suggestions to him and acting for him in a liaison capacity in his efforts to mobilize Member States and the public at large.

39. He has also set up within the Secretariat a steering group for the fiftieth anniversary and the year 2000, for which the Division of Studies and Programming provides secretariat services and whose task is to elicit views and collect proposals, prepare a programme of activities and monitor its implementation.

40. On the basis of the Executive Board's discussions and in the light of the views and suggestions expressed the programme of activities will be finalized and circulated widely.

Draft decision

41. The Executive Board may wish to adopt the following draft decision:

The Executive Board,

1. Recalling 27 C/Resolution 15, relating to the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO,

2. Stressing that the highest importance should be given to the celebration of the Organization's fiftieth anniversary and its co-ordination with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

3. Having taken cognizance of the proposals submitted in document 144 EX/28,

4. Endorses the general approach and ideas presented by the Director-General regarding the programme for the celebration of this anniversary, the aims that could be set for it and the principles that should guide its preparation;

5. Approves in particular the emphasis laid on activities of substance, which should contribute to the renewal of the Organization's programme and modes of action, and considers that these activities could constitute an important contribution to the
preparation of the fourth Medium-Term Plan and be continued during its implementation;

6. **Considers** that full advantage must be taken of these activities, as of commemoratory events to strengthen UNESCO's traditional partnerships and develop co-operation with new partners, thus enabling the Organization to be even more widely open to civil society;

7. **Invites** Member States to associate themselves with the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO and to mark this anniversary by means of significant action in the Organization's fields of competence;

8. **Requests** the Director-General to take into account as far as possible when finalizing the programme for the celebration of the anniversary the ideas and suggestions formulated during the debates of the present session and those obtained through the consultation he has carried out of Member States and non-governmental organizations;

9. **Invites** the Director-General to inform it regularly of the implementation of the programme for the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO and of the action taken by Member States and international non-governmental organizations to mark this anniversary.
ANNEX I

VI General resolutions

Celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO

The General Conference,
Reaffirming the importance for humankind of the founding of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies in the light of the changes that have taken place over the last five decades,
Recalling that the year 1995 will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and of the adoption of UNESCO’s Constitution,
Recalling also that the following year, 1996, will be that of the fiftieth anniversary of the official creation of UNESCO,
Observing that 1995 will also be the tenth anniversary of International Youth Year,
Observing that 1995 will in addition be the Year for Tolerance and will be marked by the holding of the World Summit for Social Development and of the World Conference on Women, both of which relate to UNESCO’s ethical mission and take place in the framework of the United Nations system,
Further observing that these anniversaries and events will take place shortly before the beginning of the third millennium and that this turning-point, being perceived as the end of an age, and perhaps the beginning of a new era, has thus already acquired considerable significance and considerable mobilizing power,
Considering that such a conjunction of dates and events creates an exceptionally propitious climate for initiatives aimed at renewal making it possible to approach the major issues of the future, in particular from universal or regional perspectives,
1. Deems that UNESCO should take full advantage of such a conjunction to reaffirm and clarify its own contribution to the enterprise of multilateral cooperation undertaken by the United Nations system, within the framework of the latter’s self-assigned objective of refoundation;
2. Expresses the wish that the celebrations for the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO and their co-ordination with other events relating to the United Nations be planned with these considerations in mind and be carried out on the extensive scale they call for;
Endorsing more than ever the conviction of UNESCO’s founders, expressed in the Constitution, that ‘peace must be founded upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind’,
3. Recalls that the imperatives of the construction of peace, the pursuit of sustainable development and the universalization of human rights and democracy are of direct concern to UNESCO;
4. Also recalls in this regard that the promotion of fundamental freedoms, international understanding and tolerance and respect for the specificity of works of the mind and the recognition of cultural pluralism, are, more than ever, part and parcel of this Organization’s vocation;
5. Observes furthermore that the changes brought about over the last half century by scientific discoveries and the progress of technology raise questions that open up new avenues for ethical reflection;

1. Resolution adopted at the thirty-third plenary meeting, on 16 November 1993.
6. Considers that the activities planned to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO should take account of past achievements and should fit into the perspective of future measures of solidarity and intellectual co-operation focused on the needs and aspirations of the rising generation, in order to prepare the Organization to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century;

7. Takes note with interest of the considerations submitted by the Director-General in this regard;

8. Invites the Director-General to submit to the Executive Board, at its 144th session, detailed proposals concerning the events planned to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO and the means of financing those events, while limiting purely commemorative activities;

9. Recommends that Member States themselves also celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of UNESCO by means of initiatives in the Organization's fields of competence and lend their support to the Organization for this celebration;

10. Invites Member States to take all appropriate measures to associate themselves with the celebration of this fiftieth anniversary and with reflection on the Organization's role in the world of tomorrow;

11. Recommends that Member States, through their National Commissions, and non-governmental organizations having relations of co-operation with UNESCO, work to this end in close liaison with all educational, scientific and cultural communities, young people and civil society in general and with UNESCO clubs and associations, associated schools and the media.
ANNEX II

TYPES OF ACTIVITY THAT THE MEMBER STATES COULD CARRY OUT IN UNESCO'S FIELDS OF COMPETENCE TO MARK THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORGANIZATION

Holding of national conferences, symposia and meetings on topical issues in UNESCO's fields of competence for the purpose of launching new practical initiatives.

Declaration of a state of emergency in education during the period 1995-2000 in countries with a high percentage of illiterates and of children not attending school, and adoption of measures to mobilize fresh energy and resources to achieve the objective of education for all.

Organization of broadcasts and televised debates of special sessions of legislative assemblies dealing with major problems of education, science, culture or communication.

Formulation and adoption of laws/programmes/plans for development in the fields of education, science, culture and communication.

Establishment of centres for educational innovation that could either be independent or else a part of educational or research institutions.

Launching of programmes of future-oriented research on future needs in UNESCO's fields of competence.

Opinion polls of different groups, particularly young people, women, inhabitants of rural areas, etc., on what needs to be done in education, science, culture and communication as we approach the twenty-first century.

Organization of discussions on the follow-up to recommendations made to the Member States and/or the non-governmental organizations by the General Conference and by the intergovernmental conferences convened by UNESCO.

Ratification of UNESCO conventions.

Activities aimed at assessing the situation with regard to the application of specific standard setting instruments adopted by the General Conference (conventions, agreements, recommendations, etc.).

Activities to promote international understanding and co-operation at all levels.